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# Romantic Adventures

The MAGAZINE OF YOUTH AND LOVE

I NEVER DREAMED---I'D BE KISSING YOU  
LIKE THIS! I--- LOVE YOU---

THE WAY HE HOLDS HER IN  
HIS ARMS---HIS LIPS ON HER'S  
---I TAUGHT HIM ALL THAT!  
I DIDN'T KNOW---I WANTED  
IT FOR MYSELF!

SHE WAS  
HIS TEACHER IN  
ROMANCE---  
BUT SHE NEVER  
KNEW WHAT A  
"LESSON IN LOVE"  
COULD DO TO HER  
OWN HEART!



# SMALL BUST WOMEN

Special Design "Up-And-Out" Bra  
Gives You A Fuller, Alluring Bustline  
Instantly

COLORS:

- NUDE
- WHITE
- BLACK
- BLUE

## NO PADS! NO ARTIFICIAL BUST BUILDUP NEEDED

Self conscious about your flat looking bustline? Figure Beauty starts with a glamorous bustline. The sensational "Up-And-Out" Bra has an exclusive secret patent pend. feature that tends to lift and cup flat, unshapely, small busts into a FULLER, WELL-ROUNDED, EXCITING BUSTLINE like magic instantly.

One of Our Many Satisfied Customers Below Says:

"... It's amazing how its special feature gives my bustline real glamour."

—Miss Doris Harris, Wichita, Kansas

SIZES:

28  
to  
38

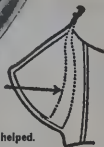


### Profile View Of Hidden Feature in Bra

which does wonders for your individual bust problem.

Below are some types who can be helped.

Special patent pending bust molding feature on inside of bra lifts, supports and cups your busts. No Matter Whether They Are Small, Flat or Sagging, into Fuller, Well-Rounded "Up and Out" curves like magic instantly!



**BEFORE** Miss Harris wore the "Up-and-Out" Bra, she was flat, unshapely, and shy.



**AFTER** she wore the "Up-and-Out" Bra, her attractive bustline gave her poise, confidence.

Now Wear All Dresses, Blouses, Sweaters, etc. (No matter how form fitting) With Bustline Confidence!

With the "Up-And-Out" Bra underneath, all your clothes will display the sweater girl, feminine curves you desire and require to look attractive. Firm elastic back and easy to adjust shoulder straps. Beautiful fabric — easy to wash. Colors: Nude, White, Black. Sizes: 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38. Only \$2.49. Mail Coupon Now.

**SEND NO MONEY!**

**FREE 10 DAY TRIAL COUPON**

Tested Sales, Dept. MR-45B7  
296 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Tested Sales, Dept. MR-45B7

296 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Rush to me my "Up-And-Out" Bra in plain wrapper in size and color checked below. I will pay postman on delivery \$2.49 plus postage. If not delighted in 10 days, I will return merchandise for my money back.

Size \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ How Many \_\_\_\_\_

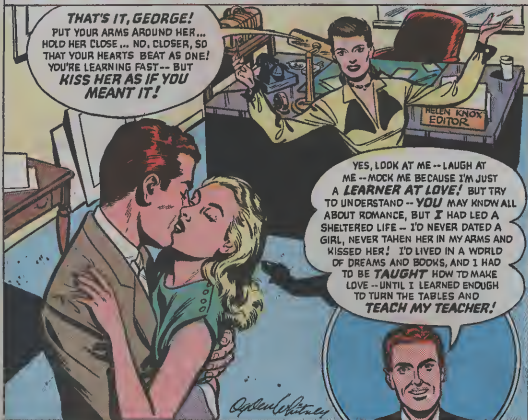
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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zone, State \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to save postage by enclosing \$2.49 with coupon. Same Money Back Guarantee.

# Lesson In Love



"My story starts in the great hall of Dalton College --"

...AND IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT THE UNIVERSITY PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN CREATIVE WRITING TO -- **GEORGE GIBBONS!** AS DEAN OF THE JOURNALISM SCHOOL, I'D LIKE TO ADD THAT WE ALL EXPECT GREAT THINGS OF GEORGE -- THE BEST WRITER WE'VE EVER TURNED OUT!

**HURRAH!**

"That was the greatest moment of my life, reader -- the culmination of all my dreams! But I vowed I would climb higher than that first rung of success -- that I would reach the very pinnacle of fame and fortune as a writer!"

WE'RE **PROUD** OF YOU, SON! AND NOW THAT YOU'VE GRADUATED, IT'S TIME YOU FOUND SOME NICE GIRL AND SETTLED DOWN! YOU'VE NEVER GONE OUT ON DATES BEFORE, BUT YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME NOW THAT YOU'RE THROUGH WITH YOUR STUDIES!

NO, I **STILL** WON'T HAVE ANY TIME FOR SUCH NONSENSE AS GIRLS AND DATES! I WON'T LET **ANYTHING** INTERFERE WITH MY AMBITION!

"Mind" bursting with ideas, I began writing the kind of stories that I thought editors would **SURELY** buy -- the romantic adventures and loves of pirates... rojohs... knights in shining armor! I gave my wild imagination free rein --"



"I mailed them to the magazines, happily imagining their excitement as they read my masterpieces, rejoiced over the brilliant new literary genius they'd discovered! But --"

**HAW, HAW** -- HERE'S ANOTHER STORY BY THAT GEORGE GIBBONS, HELEN! LIKE ALL THE OTHERS HE'S SENT IN -- PURE CORN AND TRIPE -- WITH THE CRAZIEST PLOT AND THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE CHARACTERS YOU EVER READ ABOUT!

JUST LOOK AT HIS TITLE -- **THE RAJAH OF ZAMBOANGA AND THE CAPTIVE ELEPHANT GIRL!** IT'S THE MOST JUVENILE STORY I EVER READ!

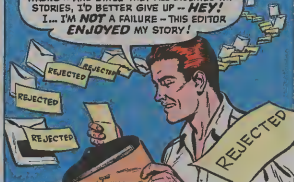


WELL, MAYBE HE **IS** JUVENILE -- PROBABLY A KID OF 13 OR 14, WRITING DOWN HIS WILDEST DREAMS! THIS **IS** FUNNY -- BUT WE SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD ON HIM IF HE'S JUST AN ADOLESCENT! I'LL SEND HIM A SWEET NOTE, TELLING HIM HOW MUCH WE **ENJOYED** HIS STORY!



"With soaring hopes and unbridled confidence, I'd mail my stories -- and with sinking heart and growing despair, I'd see them return -- **REJECTED!**"

I... I GUESS I'M JUST NO GOOD -- A **FAILURE!** ALL THE EDITORS CAN'T BE WRONG -- AND SINCE THEY ALL DISLIKED MY STORIES, I'D BETTER GIVE UP -- **HEY!** I... I'M **NOT** A FAILURE -- THIS EDITOR **ENJOYED** MY STORY!



"Overjoyed at my first sign of success, I caught the first train to New York -- anxious to meet this **H. KNOX** who'd liked my work, would undoubtedly give me invaluable tips on how to **SELL** my stories!"

I... I'D LIKE TO SEE MR. H. KNOX, PLEASE -- ABOUT ONE OF MY STORIES HE ENJOYED! MY NAME IS GEORGE GIBBONS -- WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

NA, HA -- ARE **YOU** GEORGE GIBBONS? -- OH, I'M SORRY -- I-I WAS JUST LAUGHING BECAUSE I'M H. KNOX -- HELEN KNOX! BUT I'M GLAD YOU CAME TO ME FOR ADVICE INSTEAD OF TO SOME OTHER EDITOR!

MR. GIBBONS, I'LL BE BLUNT WITH YOU! I **DID** ENJOY YOUR STORIES, EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE PLAIN TRIPE! I LAUGHED AT THEM BECAUSE THEY WERE SO LUDICROUSLY UNBELIEVABLE -- THEY DIDN'T SHOW THE SLIGHTEST KNOWLEDGE OF REAL LIFE, REAL PEOPLE, REAL EMOTIONS! TO BE A GOOD AUTHOR, YOU'VE GOT TO **LIVE** -- YOU'VE GOT TO **KNOW** LIFE TO ITS FULLEST -- SO THAT YOU CAN WRITE ABOUT **TRUE** EXPERIENCES, INSTEAD OF CHILDISH DREAMS!

BUT... BUT I'M **NOT** A CHILD -- AND I **DO** KNOW ALL ABOUT LIFE!



YOUR STORIES SHOW THAT YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT LIFE -- OR **LOVE!** YOU'RE APPARENTLY AS NAIVE AND INNOCENT AS THE DAY YOU WERE BORN... FOR HOW ELSE COULD YOU WRITE DIALOGUE AS UNREALISTIC AS THIS?-- HERE, I'LL READ A PASSAGE FROM YOUR LAST STORY, SO YOU CAN SEE HOW WOODEN YOUR CHARACTERS ARE -- LIKE LIFELESS **DOLLS!**



I FEAR NO ONE AND MY LOVE FOR YOU MAKES MY HEART BEAT HOT WITH COURAGE! YOUR EMERALD EYES INFLAME ME, YOUR RUBY LIPS SCORCH ME!

OH, FOSDICK --**DESIST!**



BUT I **STILL** WANT TO WRITE -- MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE IN THE WORLD! YOU SEEM TO KNOW EVERYTHING -- HOW CAN I LEARN ENOUGH ABOUT PEOPLE TO WRITE **REAL** STORIES ABOUT THEM?

LOOK, GIBBONS, I **LIKE** YOU! YOU'RE NAIVE AND UNSPOILED, AND I WANT TO HELP YOU! BUT I CAN'T RUN YOUR LIFE FOR YOU AND TELL YOU HOW TO LEARN ABOUT LOVE! YOU'LL HAVE TO FIND THAT OUT FOR YOURSELF -- BUT ONCE YOU **DO**, I HOPE YOU WON'T HESITATE TO CALL ON ME FOR HELP!



"I heard her voice -- reading MY words -- and suddenly I knew that only **marionettes** could mouth them!"

AH, FAIREST ONE IN ALL THE UNIVERSE, I WILL OFFER YOU MY CROWN, MY TREASURE HOUSE OF PRECIOUS GEMS, IF I CAN BUT PRESS MY LIPS UPON THE FAIREST GEM OF ALL -- **THY LIPS!**

OH, FOSDICK, MY OWN BETROTHED AND BELOVED FEARLESS ONE, I DARE NOT GRANT YOU THE FAVOR OF MY KISS! IF MY FATHER, THE DREAD KING, HEARD OF IT, HIS TERRIBLE WRATH WOULD WREAK ITS VENGEANCE ON US!



YOU OUGHT TO DESIST! NO TWO PEOPLE IN LOVE **EVER** SPOKE LIKE THAT!

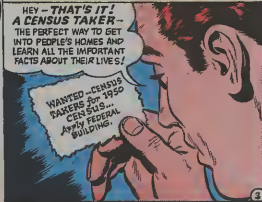
I'M AFRAID YOU'RE RIGHT -- I... I'VE NEVER EVEN **DATED** GIRLS, MUCH LESS BEEN IN **LOVE** WITH THEM! I REALLY **DON'T** KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT LIFE --

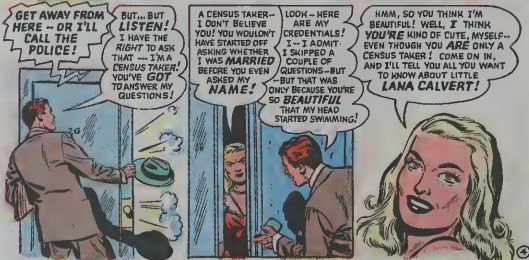
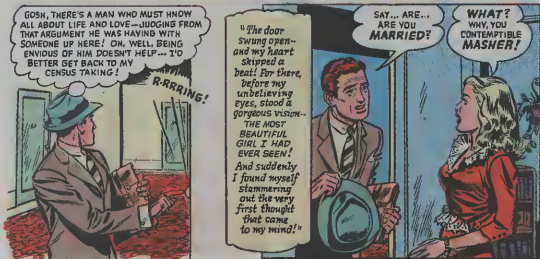
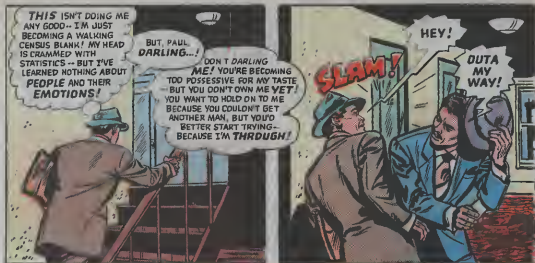


"I left, my heart overwhelmed with gratitude for the one true friend I'd found! If only I could find **LOVE** as easily, if only I could find some way of going out and meeting people -- really getting to **KNOW** them! AND the next day, I **FOUND** that way!"

HEY -- **THAT'S IT!** A **CENSUS TAKER** -- THE PERFECT WAY TO GET INTO PEOPLE'S HOMES AND LEARN ALL THE IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THEIR LIVES!

WANTED -- CENSUS TAKERS for 1950  
CENSUS...  
Apply FEDERAL BUILDING.







"My heart pounded thrillingly as that radiant vision sat down beside me, close enough so that her hair softly brushed my cheek! Intoxicated by her nearness, I managed to stammer out the first few questions..."

YES, I'M 21 YEARS OLD...  
BORN IN NEW YORK... SINGLE  
...WORK AS A MODEL IN A ---  
OH, LOOK! HA-HA--YOU'VE  
PUT DOWN 'BEAUTIFUL'  
IN THE SPACE FOR  
**OCCUPATION!**

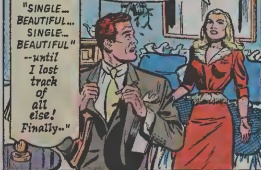
YOU'VE-GOT TO  
EXCUSE ME! I GUESS  
I'VE--NEVER MET  
ANYONE JUST LIKE  
**YOU BEFORE!**



"The words  
kept  
throbbing,  
throbbing  
in my mind  
and  
heart--

"SINGLE...  
BEAUTIFUL...  
SINGLE...  
BEAUTIFUL..."  
--until  
I lost  
track  
of  
all  
else!  
Finally..."

OH, MUST YOU GO NOW? THERE'S SO  
MUCH MORE I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU  
ABOUT MYSELF! IT...IT MUST HAVE  
BEEN FATE THAT THREW US TOGETHER--  
BECAUSE YOU'RE THE FIRST MAN I'VE  
MET THAT I'VE WANTED TO CONFIDE  
IN, AND TELL ABOUT MY TERRIBLE  
**LONELINESS!**



"Panicky, not knowing what was expected of me, not daring to believe that she actually WANTED my company, I fled from the room!"

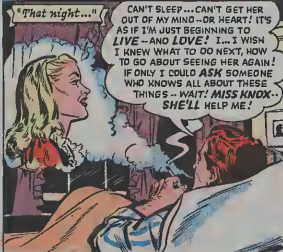
**G-GOODBYE!**

WELL, I'LL BE...!  
MAYBE PAUL WAS RIGHT--  
MAYBE I CAN'T GET  
ANOTHER MAN. I MUST  
BE LOSING MY  
TOUCH!



"That night..."

CAN'T SLEEP... CAN'T GET HER  
OUT OF MY MIND--OR HEART! IT'S  
AS IF I'M JUST BEGINNING TO  
**LIVE--AND LOVE!** I... I WISH  
I KNEW WHAT TO DO NEXT, HOW  
TO GO ABOUT SEEING HER AGAIN!  
IF ONLY I COULD ASK SOMEONE  
WHO KNOWS ALL ABOUT THESE  
THINGS--WAIT! **MISS KNOX--**  
**SHE'LL HELP ME!**

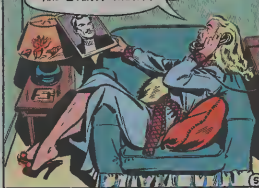


...AND... AND THEN  
SHE SAID SHE  
WANTED TO TALK  
TO ME, AND TELL  
ME HOW  
**LONELY**  
SHE WAS--

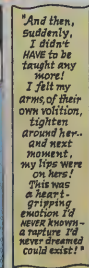
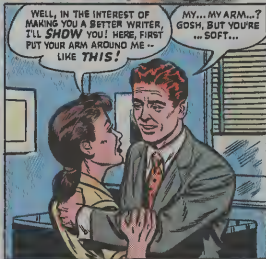
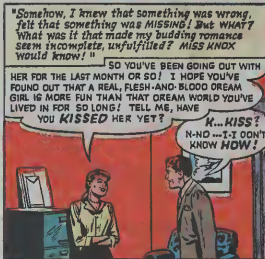
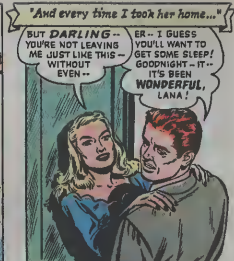
WHY, YOU POOR SAP-- SHE WAS  
JUST FISHING FOR A DATE! SHE  
**LIKES YOU!** YOU CALL HER  
UP RIGHT NOW AND ASK  
TO SEE HER **TONIGHT!**

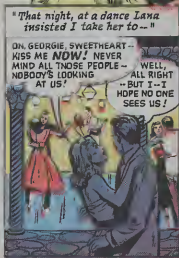
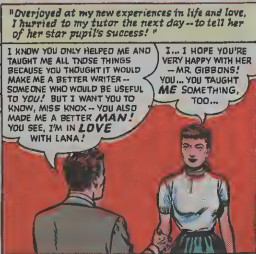
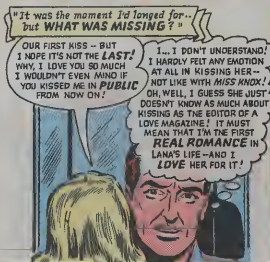
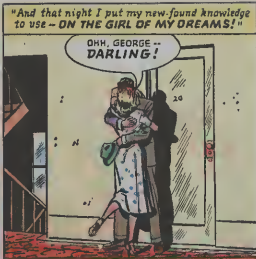
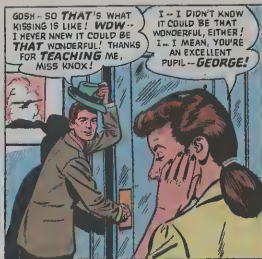


WHO... GEORGE GIBBONS? I DON'T KNOW  
ANY--OH!... THE CENSUS TAKER! HOW  
ARE YOU, **DARLING!** I WAS THINKING  
OF YOU THIS VERY MINUTE... WHY, I'D  
**LOVE** TO GO OUT WITH YOU TONIGHT--  
AND **EVERY NIGHT!**



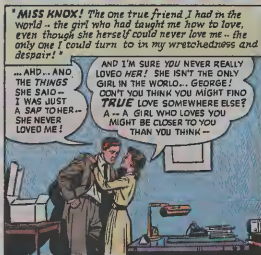








"My dream girl, in another's arms-- my dream world of love and happiness, vanished! Splinters of pain from the ruins of my romance pierced my anguished heart, filling me with bitterness at the fate that had taught me love-- and then had wrested it from me!"



"For a moment I stared wonderingly at the bold, unashamed love and tenderness shining out of her eyes for all the world to see -- and then, for the first time, I suddenly realized the **TRUTH!** It wasn't any lesson **THIS** time -- we were in each other's arms, and **NOTHING** could keep us apart!"

MY... MY HEAD'S IN A WHIRL -- I DON'T UNDERSTAND! I... I THOUGHT YOU TAUGHT ME TO LOVE BECAUSE YOU WANTED ME TO BE A BETTER WRITER -- NOT BECAUSE YOU **LOVED** ME!

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT -- UNTIL YOUR KISS TAUGHT ME THE MEANING OF **REAL** LOVE! WHEN IT COMES TO KISSING, DARLING, NO ONE HAS TO TEACH YOU ANYTHING -- YOU'RE THE MASTER, AND I'M THE PUPIL! AND TEACHER -- HOW ABOUT TEACHING ME **AGAIN?**

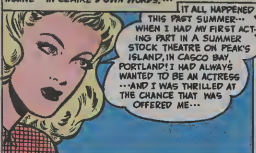
THIS'LL HAVE TO DO UNTIL YOU GRADUATE, DARLING -- BY **MARRYING** ME! I'M NOT GOING TO **WRITE** ABOUT LIFE AND LOVE ANY MORE... I'M GOING TO **LIVE** IT -- WITH **YOU!**





# How We PROPOSED

ALL THROUGH THE AGES, MEN HAVE USED VARIED AND INGENUOUS WAYS OF POPPING THE QUESTION... OF PROPOSING MARRIAGE TO THE GIRL OF THEIR DREAMS! AND HERE'S HOW IT HAPPENED TO CLAIRE BILLINGS, OF PORTLAND, MAINE... IN CLAIRE'S OWN WORDS!...



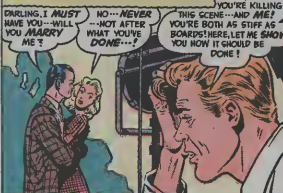
IT ALL HAPPENED THIS PAST SUMMER... WHEN I HAD MY FIRST ACTING PART IN A SUMMER STOCK THEATRE ON PEAK'S ISLAND, IN CASCO BAY, PORTLAND! I HAD ALWAYS WANTED TO BE AN ACTRESS... AND I WAS THRILLED AT THE CHANCE THAT WAS OFFERED ME...

"... AND EVEN MORE THRILLED BY TOM KEHRAN, THE HANDSOME, DEBONAIR DIRECTOR WHO'D DATED ME PREVIOUSLY... WHO I SECRETLY ADORED!"

ALL RIGHT, CLAIRE... IN THE FEW MONTHS I'VE KNOWN YOU, I'VE BECOME CONVINCINED YOU'VE GOT THE MAKINGS OF A GOOD ACTRESS IN YOU! NOW LET'S SEE YOU GO THROUGH THIS REHEARSAL AS IF IT WERE REAL LIFE... AS IF THESE THINGS WERE ACTUALLY HAPPENING TO YOU!



"BUT WHEN IT CAME TO THE LOVE SCENE..." NO, NO, NO! YOU'RE KILLING THIS SCENE... AND ME!

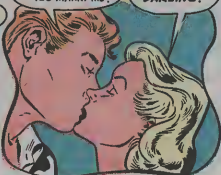


DARLING, I MUST HAVE YOU... WILL YOU MARRY ME?

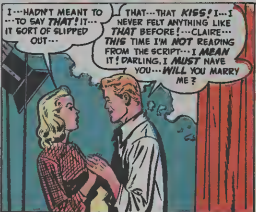
NO... NEVER... NOT AFTER WHAT YOU'VE DONE...

YOU'RE BOTH AS STIFF AS BOARDS! HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE!

DARLING, I MUST HAVE YOU... WILL YOU MARRY ME?

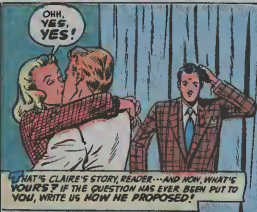


OH... YES! YES, TOM... DARLING!



I... HADN'T MEANT TO... TO SAY THAT! IT... IT GORT OF SLIPPED OUT...

THAT... THAT KISS! I... I NEVER FELT ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE!... CLAIRE... THIS TIME I'M NOT READING FROM THE SCRIPT... I MEAN IT! DARLING, I MUST HAVE YOU... WILL YOU MARRY ME?



OH... YES! YES!

THAT'S CLAIRE'S STORY, READER... AND NOW, WHAT'S YOURS? IF THE QUESTION HAS EVER BEEN PUT TO YOU, WRITE US NOW HE PROPOSED!

## TWO of a KIND

MARY HARRIS was certain of only one thing. She would be an old maid! For where could she find a *man* in Cloverdale . . . a man who, like herself, would hate the small roadhouse inns, the blare of jukebox music, the aimless, malicious gossip of a small town?

There was no such man in Cloverdale. There were idlers, who lounged on street corners from sunrise to long after sunset, ambitious young men who regarded love and business in the same light, and smooth-talking men who looked for a conquest in every girl they dated.

"I'm out of place. I've *always* been out of place here," Mary thought, as she walked toward the Cloverdale Public Library. "Even the hook I'm carrying stamps me as different. What other girl in Cloverdale would read it? What *man* would, for that matter?"

The title of Mary's book was "Recent Archeological Findings in the Libyan Desert." Though the volume was thick, heavy with maps and charts, and abounded in historical references, Mary had read it three times! For to her, there was romance in books and far-away places, dream places of hot suns and hiting winds, weatherheaten faces, colorful costumes. . . .

With an effort, Mary wrenched her mind away from the Lihyan Desert and brought it back to Cloverdale. "Now that I think of it," she pondered, "it was rather strange. Old Miss Morrissey said the hook was one week overdue and there was someone else waiting for it! Who on earth would want to read it . . . except *me*?"

Indeed, it was a mystery. Someone was waiting for that hook, the librarian had said. But *who*? And *why*?

As Mary entered the library, it took an instant for her eyes to adjust to the quiet dimness of the room. It was then that she saw him . . . a tall, thin young man, whose eyes were very bright behind his horn-rimmed glasses and whose tousled hair appeared to defy brush and comb. He stood near Miss Morrissey's desk, his fingers drumming a tattoo on the surface as he waited.

"Here it is, Miss Morrissey," Mary said, her voice at low library pitch. "I . . . enjoyed it tremendously!"

Miss Morrissey stamped the date in the hook and made change from the quarter Mary handed her. "Thank you, my dear, for bringing it right back," she said.

Mary turned to leave. She looked at the young man and he looked at her. The stillness in the room was profound.

"You're welcome, Miss Morrissey," Mary answered.

She was half-way toward the door when the old librarian did an unprecedented and shocking thing. She raised her voice. "Oh, Mary," she called, "would you mind coming back?"

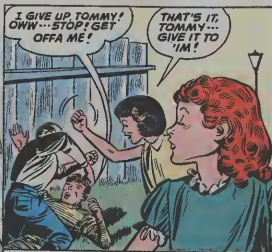
There was a wise smile on her face as she said, "Miss Harris, Mr. Martin. You two seem to have something in common!"

Mary smiled as she saw the hook held firmly in the young man's hands. Her heart began to thud as she stammered over the simple words, "How do you do?" The young man's eyes grew brighter as he touched her hand.

All of Cloverdale was surprised when only a week later, Mary's engagement was announced to the new history teacher at Cloverdale High! That is, all of Cloverdale except . . . Miss Morrissey!

# They CALLED ME "TOMBOY"

YES, THAT WAS MY NAME---AND THEY LAUGHED AT ME, MOCKED ME! I WASN'T LIKE OTHER GIRLS. THEY SAID, FOR I KNEW NOTHING, CARED LESS FOR FEMININE WILES! DIDN'T THEY KNOW THAT A TOMBOY IS STILL A WOMAN---THAT SHE CAN WEEP A WOMAN'S TEARS OF ANGUISH, KNOW A WOMAN'S DESPERATE LOVE AND HEARTBREAK?



I GIVE UP TOMMY! OWW---STOP! GET OFFA ME!

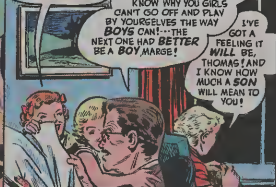
THAT'S IT, TOMMY... GIVE IT TO 'IM!

"DO YOU THINK THAT'S AN ODD WAY OF BEGINNING A ROMANTIC ADVENTURE, READER? WELL, IT ISN'T, AND I OUGHT TO KNOW---BECAUSE I'M TOMMY---AND THIS IS MY LOVE STORY! BUT IT REALLY BEGINS EVEN BEFORE I WAS BORN---IN A SMALL MONTANA TOWN HIGH IN THE ROCKIES---"

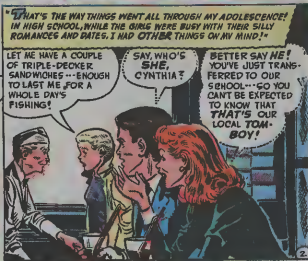
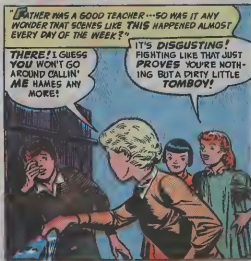
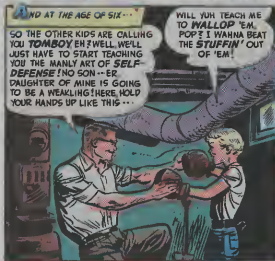
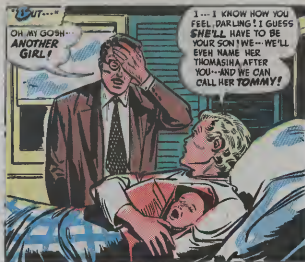
TELL US A STORY, DADDY! C'MON, TELL US!

ALL RIGHT---BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO SWARM ALL OVER ME! I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU GIRLS CAN'T GO OFF AND PLAY BY YOURSELVES THE WAY BOYS CAN!...THE NEXT ONE HAD BETTER BE A BOY, MARGE!

I'VE GOT A FEELING IT WILL BE, THOMAS! AND I KNOW HOW MUCH A SON WILL MEAN TO YOU!







CYNTHIA'S MOCKING WORDS DIDN'T BOTHER ME, FOR WE WERE OLD ENEMIES BY NOW! I HAD ONLY CONTEMPT FOR HER WEAK FEMININITY... FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH SHE COULD DISPENSE CRUEL INSULTS, YET WOULD BE THROWN INTO A CHILDISH TANTRUM OF VIOLENT TEMPER BY THE SLIGHTEST COMEBACK!"

LUCKY YOU AREN'T GOING FISHING, CYNTHIA! SOMEONE MIGHT MISTAKE YOU FOR A WORM!

YOU... YOU DESPICABLE, INSUFFERABLE... I... I COULD KILL YOU!

"I'LL BE AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY, I WAS BUSY WITH ACTIVITIES LIKE THIS..."

WOW... WHAT A POLE VAULTER!

YEAH, TOMMY IS THE FIRST GIRL EVER TO BE ON THE VARSITY TRACK AND FIELD TEAM... BUT WITH HER ON OUR GIDE, WE CAN'T LOSE!

"WHILE CYNTHIA, OF COURSE, WAS BUSY PRACTICING THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY!"

OH, KEN, YOU WERE JUST HEROIC AT THE FOOTBALL GAME TODAY! I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE COUNTRY'S TOP SOORER! AND YOU... YOU'RE SO BIG AND STRONG, YOU'RE ALSO TOPS IN... IN MY HEART!

I JUST LOOK STRONG BECAUSE YOU'RE SO SOFT AND FEMININE!

THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU, CYNTHIA!

KEN... DARLING!

"THANKS TO STAR QUARTERBACK KEN FAIRFAX, OUR FOOTBALL TEAM WAS A REAL POWERHOUSE! AND SINCE ATHLETICS FASCINATED ME, I WAS THE TEAM'S MOST ARDENT ROOTER! I EVEN FELT IT MY DUTY TO ATTEND THE FOOTBALL VICTORY DANCE... THE FIRST DANCE I'D EVER GONE TO!"

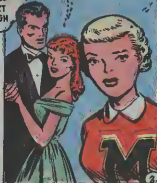
DARLING, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL! I... I LOVE YOU SO MUCH, I'D DO ANYTHING FOR YOU RIGHT NOW!

ANYTHING? I'M GOING TO FIND OUT IF YOU MEAN THAT! TAKE A LOOK OVER AT THE DOOR AND SEE WHAT JUST CAME IN!

GOSH, THEY'RE WEARING EVENING GOWNS! BUT I GUESS THIS OLD SWEATER AND SKIRT ARE FORMAL ENOUGH FOR ME!

SAY, WHO'S THAT?

THE BIGGEST TOM-BOY THAT EVER LIVED! SHE'S BEEN INSULTING ME EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS, AND I WANT YOU TO HELP ME GET BACK AT HER! REMEMBER... YOU SAID YOU'D DO ANYTHING FOR ME!



I WAS STANDING THERE, LOOKING CONTEMPTUOUSLY AT THESE SIMP-  
LING, FAWNING FEMALES...WISHING FOR SOME BOY TO TALK FOOTBALL  
WITH...WHEN...

HELLO THERE!  
HOW ABOUT A  
DANCE?

IT...IT'S KEN  
FAIRFAX HIMSELF!  
I...I NEVER DANCED  
A STEP IN MY LIFE,  
BUT I CAN'T TURN  
HIM DOWN!



GOSH, I HATE TO  
DO THIS...BUT I  
PROMISED  
CYNTHIA!

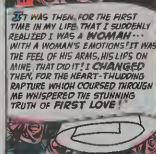
YOU...YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT,  
TOMMY, BUT I'VE FELT STRANGELY  
DRAWN TO YOU FROM THE DAY  
I FIRST SAW YOU! I...I'VE  
ALWAYS BEEN LOOKING FOR  
A CHANCE TO BE ALONE  
WITH YOU...SO I COULD  
TELL YOU...



...I LOVE  
YOU!



IT WAS THEN, FOR THE FIRST  
TIME IN MY LIFE, THAT I SUDDENLY  
REALIZED I WAS A WOMAN...  
WITH A WOMAN'S EMOTIONS! IT WAS  
THE FEEL OF HIS ARMS, HIS LIPS ON  
MINE, THAT DID IT! I CHANGED  
THEN, FOR THE HEART-THUDDING  
RAPTURE WHICH COURSED THROUGH  
ME WHISPERED THE STUNNING  
TRUTH OF FIRST LOVE!



OH, KEN, DARLING! I...I  
LOVE YOU TOO...WITH  
ALL MY HEART...!



HA-  
HA-  
HA!

I'D ALWAYS ADMIRER KEN'S STRENGTH AND FORCE-  
FULNESS...FROM A DISTANCE! AND NOW, WITH  
HIS ARMS HOLDING ME CLOSE, I SUDDENLY FOUND  
THAT I DIDN'T WANT TO TALK FOOTBALL! WHAT  
WERE THESE STRANGE EMOTIONS WHICH GRIPPED  
ME, MADE MY HEART SOAR AS, ALMOST MAGICALLY,  
I SEEMED TO FOLLOW HIS GRACEFUL STEPS?

YOUR NAME IS TOMMY,  
ISN'T IT? I'VE SEEN YOU  
AROUND AND I'VE EVEN  
MADE SOME INQUIRIES  
ABOUT YOU...COME ON  
OUT IN THE GARDEN  
AND I'LL TELL YOU  
WHY!

ALL...  
ALL  
RIGHT!



"ONLY A RIPLE OF SILVERY LAUGHTER  
...BUT BEFORE IT, MY DREAM OF LOVE  
SHATTERED INTO A THOUSAND ACHING  
FRAGMENTS!"

HA-HA! I NEVER SAW  
ANYTHING SO RIDICU-  
LOUSLY FUNNY IN ALL MY  
LIFE! SHE FELL FOR IT...SHE  
REALLY BELIEVED YOU LOVED  
HER! OH, KEN...WHAT AN  
ACT YOU PUT ON FOR ME!

YOU...YOU  
MEAN...YOU  
PUT HIM UP TO  
THIS? HE DIDN'T  
MEAN WHAT  
HE SAID?





MEAN IT?  
DO YOU THINK  
ANYONE  
COULD CARE  
FOR A DOWDY  
TOMBOY?  
AND YOU LOVE  
HIM...NOW  
SWEET!

TOMMY,  
LISTEN  
TO ME!  
I...I...

GET AWAY  
FROM ME...  
I HATE  
YOU!



"WITHIN ME, THE BITTER TEARS WELLED UP, AND I KNEW I HAD TO GET AWAY... AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF MY HUMILIATION AND HEARTBREAK! WHY WAS I CRYING? THAT WAS FOR GIRLS, NOT FOR A... TOMBOY!"

THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR TRYING TO BE A WOMAN...FOR FORGETTING WHAT I AM! I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER...LOVE ISN'T FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME! I'LL NEVER... LEAVE MYSELF OPEN TO IT AGAIN...



"BUT NEXT MORNING, WHEN I ANSWERED THE DOORBELL..."

YOU!

I... I CAME TO APOLOGIZE FOR WHAT I SAID AND DID LAST NIGHT TOMMY. I WANT YOU TO KNOW...



INSTANTLY ALL THE HATRED AND BITTERNESS WITHIN ME SURGED UP IN A WILD RAGE FOR REVENGE! WITH EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH I COULD SUMMON FROM MY ATHLETICALLY-HARDENED BODY, I LASHED OUT!"

YOU...YOU LIAR! SHE PROBABLY SENT YOU HERE...AND YOU CAN LEAVE WITH THIS!

HEY...  
OWWW!



GO BACK TO THAT DELICATE, Dainty GIRL OF YOURS... AND DON'T TRY ANY MORE TRICKS ON SOMEONE WHO CAN TAKE CARE OF HERSELF!

ALL RIGHT, YOU LITTLE WILDCAT--IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT! BUT DON'T SAY I DIDN'T TRY TO APOLOGIZE!



FROM THAT DAY ON, I TRIED TO BURY MYSELF IN ATHLETICS, CONSCIOUS OF A GREAT VOID IN MY LIFE... A VOID THAT COULD NEVER BE FILLED! NO, LOVE WAS NOT FOR ME... BUT THINGS LIKE TRACK AND SOCCER WERE!"

WELL, WELL, LOOK WHAT'S TRYING TO RUN AROUND THE TRACK...OLD BAGGY PANTS AND DRAPE SHAPE! I WONDER IF SHE'S TRYING TO IMPROVE THE GIRLISH FIGURE WHICH SHE HASN'T GOT?

OH, LAY OFF, CYNTHIA... HAVEN'T YOU DONE ENOUGH?

I HATE THEM... I HATE THEM BOTH!



"BUT YOU CAN'T COMPLETELY AVOID PEOPLE YOU HATE...NOT IF YOU GO TO COLLEGE WITH THEM! AND ONE DAY, IN GEOLOGY CLASS..."

FOR THE PURPOSES OF OUR TERM FIELD TRIP, THE CLASS IS BEING DIVIDED INTO SECTIONS OF THREE PERSONS EACH, WITH EACH SECTION IN CHARGE OF A STUDENT WHO KNOWS THE COUNTRYSIDE WELL! MR. KENNETH FAIRFAX AND MISS CYNTHIA OSGOOD WILL BE IN THE FIRST SECTION, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MISS THOMASINA BOWMAN...

OH, NO!



"WELL, THERE IT WAS... I WAS STUCK! ON THE DAY OF THE FIELD TRIP, MY HEART BEATING WITH IMPOTENT ANGER, I LED THE WAY IN STONY SILENCE UP THE STEEP MOUNTAINSIDE TO LOOK FOR GEOLOGICAL SPECIMENS!"

WHAT'S THE MATTER, TOMBOY... CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE? OR ARE YOU JUST TRYING TO PLAY THE STRONG, SILENT, HE-MAN TYPE?



"AN HOUR PASSED... AN HOUR OF CYNTHIA'S TAUNTING LIBES! MY BLOOD BOILED, BUT I WOULDN'T GIVE HER THE SATISFACTION OF SHOWING HER SHE WAS HURTING ME! BUT THEN, AT THE HEIGHT OF OUR CLIMB..."

STOP IT, CYNTHIA! YOU'VE GONE FAR ENOUGH... AND I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR MALICIOUS COMMENTS! EITHER YOU STOP IT, OR I'LL...

MY, MY, HOW MANLY SHE LOOKS ON THAT HORSE!



"I WHIRLED AROUND, ALARMEO! I KNEW HOW READILY CYNTHIA'S CHILDISH TEMPER COULD BE AROUSED, HOW EASILY SHE COULD BE THROWN INTO FEMININE HYSTERICS... AND AS I SAW THE LOOK OF THWARTED RAGE ON HER FACE, A SUDDEN PREMONITION OF DISASTER AHEAD STABBED MY HEART!"

HOW DARE YOU TAKE SIDES WITH HER... HOW DARE YOU TALK TO ME LIKE THAT? GET AWAY FROM ME...!

DON'T, CYN... HEY!



"AND THEN, BEFORE MY HORRIFIED EYES..."

EASY, BOY... OHHH!

KEN! THE CLIFF... LOOK OUT!



HELP!

"FOR A MOMENT, I STOOD ROOTED TO THE SPOT IN A PARALYSIS OF FEAR! AND IN THAT MOMENT CAME A SENSE OF AWFUL LOSS... A SUDDEN, BLINDING REALIZATION THAT NO MATTER HOW HE HAD TREATED ME, I STILL LOVED HIM... I'D ALWAYS LOVE HIM!"

15...  
IS HE...?

I DON'T KNOW! HE'S CAUGHT ON A PROJECTING TREE. BUT THE IMPACT MUST'VE LOOGENED THE ROOTS... BECAUSE IT LOOKS AS IF IT'S ABOUT TO TOPPLE OFF DOWN THE CANYON... WITH HIM! WE'VE NO TIME TO GO FOR HELP--AND THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO GET TO HIM!



I KNOW HE DESPISES ME FOR BEING A TOMBOY... I KNOW HE'LL NEVER BE MINE... BUT I HAVE TO TRY TO SAVE HIM, IF HE'S STILL ALIVE!



HE... HE'S ALIVE... HE'S JUST UNCONSCIOUS! BUT THE TREE... IT'S GIVING WAY... IT'S ABOUT TO FALL! OH IF I CAN ONLY TIE THIS ROPE AROUND HIM... AT LEAST HE'LL BE SAVED!



"A MOMENT LATER..."

THERE IT GOES... AND I ALMOST WENT WITH IT!



"DESPERATELY CLUTCHING THE ROPE... AND THE MAN I LOVED... I THANKED MY LUCKY STARS FOR BEING AN ATHLETE, A TOMBOY--FOR I KNEW THAT ONLY STRENGTH, AGILITY--AND COURAGE... WOULD PULL US THROUGH!"



THERE! THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET TO THAT OTHER CLIFF--BY GETTING THE ROPE TO SWING AS A PENDULUM! IT'S TOO SHORT TO REACH ACROSS... BUT IF I CAN ONLY GET ENOUGH MOMENTUM INTO MY SWING...

"BACK AND FORTH THROUGH THE AIR... WITH CRUEL DEATH YAWNING FAR BELOW! UP--AND OUT! AND THEN, AT THE TOP OF OUR SWING, I CUT LOOSE! WOULD IT BE LIFE... OR DEATH?"



IF... IF IT'S TO BE DEATH, AT LEAST WE'LL DIE TOGETHER!



MADE IT!

WHAM!

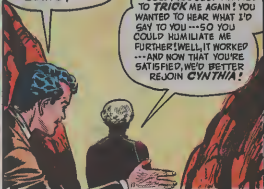
"THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO THEN---REVIVE HIM---SO THAT HE COULD RETURN TO HER ARMS!"

KEN... KEN, DARLING! YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU, BUT PLEASE, WAKE UP, OPEN YOUR EYES---OH-HH! THEY ARE OPEN! YOU---YOU'RE CONSCIOUS---AND YOU HEARD---



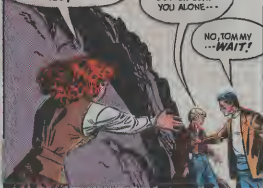
YES, I HEARD---EVERYTHING! IT WAS WONDERFUL---AND SO ARE YOU! I---HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

DON'T GIVE ME ANY MORE OF YOUR LIES---I KNOW WHY YOU PRETENDED TO BE OUT COLD! YOU JUST WANTED TO TRICK ME AGAIN! YOU WANTED TO HEAR WHAT I'D SAY TO YOU---SO YOU COULD HUMILIATE ME FURTHER! WELL, IT WORKED---AND NOW THAT YOU'RE SATISFIED, WE'D BETTER REJOIN CYNTHIA!



DARLING! YOU'RE ALIVE---YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! OH, THANK HEAVENS---I COULDN'T BEAR TO LIVE WITHOUT YOU!

WELL, THERE SHE IS---THE GIRL I SAVED YOU FOR! AND NOW, I---I'D BETTER LEAVE YOU ALONE---



NO, TOMMY---WAIT!

YES, I AM ALIVE---BUT NO THANKS TO YOU! THAT DISPLAY OF TEMPER ALMOST COST ME MY LIFE! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF YOUR SPOILED PETULANCE, YOUR FEMININE CATTINESS AND VINDICTIVENESS ABOUT TOMMY! I USED TO THINK I LIKED YOUR SOFT, CLINGING-VINE WILES, BUT NOW---

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE GOING TO SAY THAT NOW YOU PREFER A TOMBOY TO ME! DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH---A REAL MAN LIKE YOU COULD NEVER GO FOR SOMEONE LIKE TOMMY!



OH, COULDN'T I?---LISTEN, TOMMY---I'VE BEEN AGHAMED OF MYSELF EVER SINCE I LET HER TALK ME INTO TRYING TO HURT YOU! BUT I FOUND THAT I ONLY HURT MYSELF---BECAUSE I FINALLY REALIZED THAT WHAT I WANTED IN A GIRL WAS TRUE CHARACTER, DEVOTION, COURAGE---SOMEONE WHO COULD FACE LIFE---AND LOVE---UNAFRAID! TO ME, YOU REALLY AREN'T A TOMBOY---



---BUT THE GIRL OF MY HEART! I LOVE YOU, DARLING!

KEN---SWEET-HEART!



"YES, READER, THAT'S MY STORY---THE LOVE STORY OF A TOMBOY! KEN AND I HAVE BEEN BLISSFULLY MARRIED FOR YEARS NOW---AND SO TAKE IT FROM ME---IF YOU'RE A LITTLE TOMBOYISH IN YOUR HABITS, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! BECAUSE WHEN THE RIGHT MAN COMES ALONG, YOU'LL BE THE GIRL OF HIS HEART, TOO!"



# LISTEN, MY LOVE!

DARLING... I LOVE YOU... WITH ALL MY HEART!

I WANT TO MARRY YOU  
...I'LL MAKE YOU THE  
HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE  
WORLD! LISTEN,  
MY LOVE!

I... I CAN'T STAND THIS  
AWFUL SILENCE ANY MORE!  
I CAN'T BEAR BEING DOOMED NEVER  
TO HEAR AGAIN... NEVER TO  
SENSE A MAN'S SWEET WHISPERED  
WORDS OF LOVE! MINE IS A SOUND-  
LESS, WORDLESS, LOVELESS LIFE  
...AND NOBODY WANTS ME!

"SWEET  
SIXTEEN...  
WHAT A  
DELICIOUSLY  
DELIGHTFUL  
AGE! AND WHAT  
SWEET RAPTURE  
IT IS IF A GIRL  
TURNS OUT TO  
BE THE BELLE  
OF THE BALL...  
AT HER VERY  
FIRST PROM!"

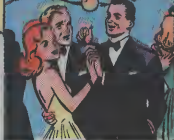
GOLLY, I'M GLAD I  
MANAGED TO SNAG  
YOU FOR THIS  
DANCE, NAOMI!  
YOU'RE THE  
PRETTIEST  
GIRL IN THE...

SHE SURE IS  
...AND THAT'S  
WHY I'M  
CUTTING  
IN!

"COULD THIS BE  
ME... LITTLE  
NAOMI BRADFIELD  
...SUDDENLY  
BLOSSOMING OUT  
TO ATTRACT TOM  
HARDER, THE  
MOST POPULAR  
BOY IN SCHOOL?  
SUDDENLY, MY  
SOARING HEART  
TOLD ME THAT  
THIS WAS ONLY  
THE BEGINNING  
OF A GLORIOUSLY  
HAPPY LIFE... A  
LIFE FULL OF  
ROMANCE!"

YOU'RE OUT OF THIS WORLD, NAOMI!  
COME ON, LET'S SLIP OUT TO THE  
TERRACE BEFORE THE REST OF  
THOSE WOLVES GANG UP ON ME!

THIS IS WHAT I'VE  
ALWAYS LONGED FOR!  
I'M GOING TO BE THE  
BELLE OF A THOUSAND  
DANCES... HAVE A  
THOUSAND MEN  
BEGGING TO  
MARRY ME...



"MY FIRST DANCE, FIRST ROMANCE---AND THEN... MY FIRST KISS! INSTANTLY, MY THROBBING HEART KNEW THAT ALL THE LOVE STORIES I'D DEVoured HADN'T EVEN COME CLOSE TO DESCRIBING THIS UNBELIEVABLY SWEET RAPT-URE! NO LONGER DID I WANT A THOUSANDS SUITORS! JUST ONE PAIR OF LIPS WOULD BE ENOUGH---IF THEY BE- LONGED TO TOM HARDER!"

NAOMI--- SWEETHEART!



OH!!... TOM!

I--- I CAN TELL YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY I DO NOW---ALL DIZZY AND HAPPY DEEP INSIDE! YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL WITH YOUR FACE SO FLUSHED---

1--- I DO FEEL FEVERISH AND DIZZY... BUT I DIDN'T KNOW A KISS MADE YOU FEEL AS IF YOU WANTED TO... FAINT---



WAS THIS WHAT LOVE WAS LIKE? SWIRLING TIOES OF DIZZINESS---THE WORLD SHIM- MING HAZILY AROUND YOU---A RINGING IN THE EARS--- AND THEN BLACK GULFS OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS SUDDENLY OPENING UP TO SWALLOW YOU!

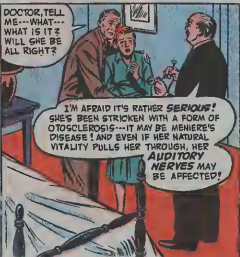
NAOMI!

TOM--- I--- I AM GOING TO FAI... OH!!... NAOMI!



DOCTOR, TELL ME---WHAT--- WHAT IS IT? WILL SHE BE ALL RIGHT?

I'M AFRAID IT'S RATHER SERIOUS! SHE'S BEEN STRICKEN WITH A FORM OF OTOSCLEROSIS---IT MAY BE MENIERE'S DISEASE! AND EVEN IF HER NATURAL VITALITY PULLS HER THROUGH, HER AUDITORY NERVES MAY BE AFFECTED!

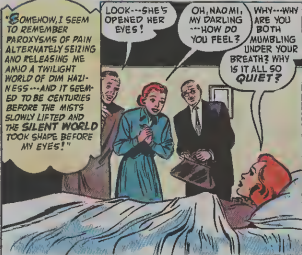


SOMEHOW, I SEEM TO REMEMBER PAROXYSMS OF PAIN ALTERNATELY SEIZING AND RELEASING ME AMO A TWILIGHT WORLD OF DIM HAZI- NESS---AND IT SEEM- ED TO BE CENTURIES BEFORE THE MISTS SLOWLY LIFTED AND THE SILENT WORLD TOOK SHAPE BEFORE MY EYES!"

LOOK---SHE'S OPENED HER EYES!

OH, NAOMI, MY DARLING---HOW DO YOU FEEL?

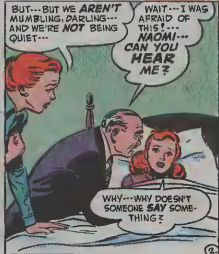
WHY---WHY ARE YOU BOTH MUMBLING UNDER YOUR BREATH? WHY IS IT ALL SO QUIET?

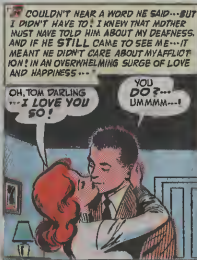
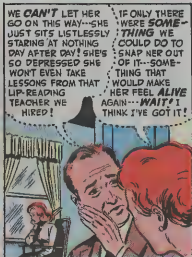
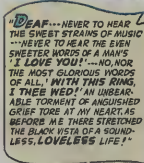


BUT--- BUT WE AREN'T MUMBLING, DARLING--- AND WE'RE NOT BEING QUIET---

WAIT--- I WAS AFRAID OF THIS!... NAOMI--- CAN YOU HEAR ME?

WHY---WHY DOESN'T SOMEONE SAY SOMETHING?





I---I **DIDN'T** KNOW THAT! IT'S GOT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, NACHO!! I'M SORRY, BUT---I **CAN'T** SEE YOU ANY MORE! I---I FEEL LIKE A NEEL SAYING IT, BUT WHAT GOOD'S A GIRL YOU CAN'T TALK WITH, LAUGH WITH MAYBE WE'D BETTER MAKE THIS... **GOODBYE!**

**TOM!** I CAN'T HEAR WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT THAT--- THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE--AS IF I WERE SOMETHING ABNORMAL, FRIGHTENING---



"THE DOOR THAT SLAMMED BEHIND HIM ALSO GLAMMED SHUT DN MY HEART! AND WITH IT AN IRON CURTAIN DESCENDED OVER MY HOPES AND DREAMS! WITHIN ME, A VOICE SEEMED TO WHISPER 'ALDNE YOU'LL ALWAYS BE --- ALONE!'"

I **HATE** HIM---AND I'LL ALWAYS NATE **EVERY** MAN! I'LL **NEVER** LET MYSELF FALL IN LOVE AGAIN---I **SWEAR IT!** BUT I WON'T GIVE THEM THE CHANCE TO SPURN ME AGAIN---I'LL **CONCEAL** MY DEAFNESS! I'LL PRACTICE LIP-READING TILL I'M **PERFECT** AT IT, AND THEN I'LL BE ABLE TO **LAUGH** AT MEN!



"THE YEARS FLEW BY--- YEARS OF DESOLATE LONE- LINESS---BUT WITH GRIM DESPERATION, I KEPT AT MY SELF-APPOINTED TASK OF BECOMING A GIRL WHO WOULD BE **SAFE** FROM ALL POSSIBLE SCORN AND REJECTION! I LEFT THE TOWN WHERE EVERYONE **KNEW** OF MY AFFLICTION, AND CAME TO NEW YORK'S MELTING POT---GREENWICH VILLAGE---WHERE I WAS UNKNOWN---BUT **UNSCORN- ED!**"

HERE'RE THE LAST FIVE PAGES OF MANUSCRIPT, MISS BRAD- FIELD! COULD YOU HAVE THEM TYPED BY TOMORROW?



WNY. CERTAINLY, MR. WILDE! YOU'LL HAVE THEM IN THE MORNING!

"YES, THE LONG, WEARY MONTHS OF PAINSTAKING PRACTICE AT LIP-READING HAD MADE ME SO ADEPT THAT I COULD PASS AS A NORMAL GIRL! I EVEN BEGAN TO FEEL THAT I **BELONGED** IN THE VILLAGE'S ARTISTIC LIFE, BECAUSE OF THE LONELY, SILENT EVENINGS SPENT ON MY FAVORITE NOBBY... **SCULPTURE!**"

I DON'T KNOW HOW **GOOD** I AM AT THIS, BUT IT GIVES ME A STRANGE SATISFACT- ION---MAYBE BECAUSE THESE LIFELESS MATERIALS ARE STONE COLD---AND **STONE DEAF**---THE WAY I AM! ANYWAY, IT HELPS KEEP MY MIND AWAY FROM MY AWFUL LONELINESS!



"**BUT**---THINGS DIDN'T GO AS WELL AS I'D HOPEO..."

I HAVEN'T GOTTEN ANY TYPING WORK IN A WEEK---AND I'VE ONLY \$1.70 LEFT! I---I'LL HAVE TO DO **SOME- THING**---**WAIT!** THESE SCULPTURES---MAYBE I CAN GET A DOLLAR OR TWO FOR THEM FROM THE VILLAGE ART SHOP DOWN THE STREET!

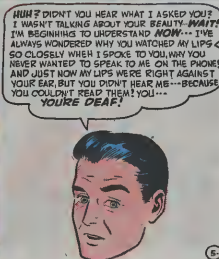
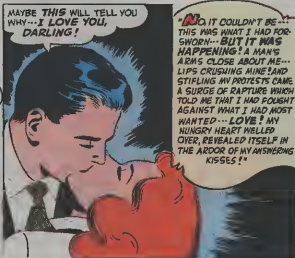
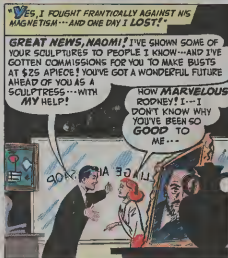
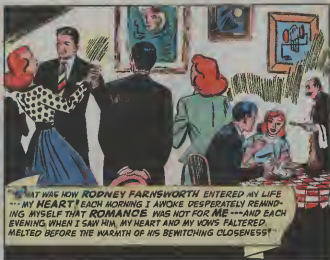


HMMM---NOT **TOO** BAD FOR AN AMATEUR! I THINK I CAN LET YOU HAVE A COUPLE OF DOLLARS FOR THE LOT!



OH, THAT'S **WONDERFUL!** I---I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN THANK YOU ENOUGH---





"ST WAS OUT IN THE OPEN NOW! AND I FACED HIM, DEENSELESS, MY HEART CRYING OUT WITHIN ME! I'D BEEN A FOOL TO THINK I COULD KEEP MY AFFLICTION FROM HIM FOREVER...AND AN EVEN GREATER FOOL TO FALL IN LOVE AND LEAVE MYSELF OPEN FOR THE CRUEL REJECTION THAT I KNEW WAS COMING!"

YES, I AM DEAF...TOTALLY, PERMANENTLY! AND NOW I...I'LL SAVE YOU THE TROUBLE OF SAYING WHAT YOU'RE THINKING! GOODBYE, RODNEY!

SISTER, NOW THAT I KNOW YOU CAN'T HEAR ME AND YOU'RE NOT LOOKING AT MY LIPS, I CAN SAY IT OUT LOUD! I'LL BE GLAD WHEN I'M RID OF YOU, BUT IT'S NOT GOODBYE YET...NOT WHEN YOU MEAN A FORTUNE TO ME!

WAIT, SWEETHEART...LISTEN TO ME! NOTHING CAN EVER DESTROY MY LOVE FOR YOU! WHAT'S LOSS OF HEARING...WHEN IT ONLY MAKES ME WANT TO PROTECT YOU, CHERISH YOU THE MORE!

RODNEY! OH, DARLING!

FORGIVE ME FOR EVER DOUBTING YOU, DEAREST...I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT OURS IS A TRUE LOVE! YOU...YOU'VE MADE ME THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD TONIGHT...AND I KNOW I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE YOU HAPPY!

YOU SURE WILL, SISTER... EVERY BUCK I MAKE ON YOU WILL MAKE ME HAPPY! HAH... NICE TO SAY WHAT I'M THINKING ALOUD...AND YOU'RE NONE THE WISER!

"I LIVED IN A WORLD OF BLISSFUL ENCHANTMENT FROM THAT DAY ON...BASKING IN RODNEY'S ADORATION, AND WORKING HARD TO PLEASE HIM BY DOING A GOOD JOB ON THE COMMISSIONS HE SECURED FOR ME!"

IT...IT ALMOST SCARES ME TO WORK IN THESE WEALTHY HOMES...RODNEY MUST KNOW AN AWFUL LOT OF RICH OLD DONAGERS WHO WANT THEMSELVES IMMORTALIZED IN BRONZE OR MARBLE! AND THEY CERTAINLY SEEM ABLE TO PAY MORE THAN THE MEAGLY \$25 THEY GIVE RODNEY! BUT I SHOULDN'T COMPLAIN...HE'S SUCH A DARLING TO GIVE ME THE WHOLE AMOUNT EACH TIME!

"THEN, AS I ENTERED RODNEY'S SHOP ONE DAY..."

I MUST KNOW THE SCULPTOR WHO MADE THOSE FIGURES IN YOUR WINDOW...THEY'RE CRUDE, BUT WITH A SWEEPING POWER AND TECHNIQUE THAT STAGGERS THE IMAGINATION! HE'LL BE A MASTER SOME DAY...WHO IS HE, FARNGORTH?

I DON'T KNOW, SWENSON...I BOUGHT THEM SECOND-HAND! BUT EVEN IF I DID KNOW, I WOULDN'T TELL YOU!

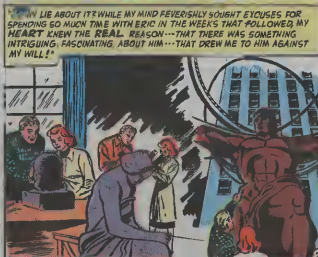
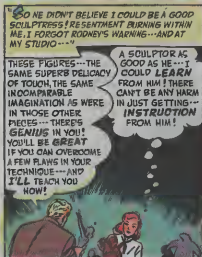
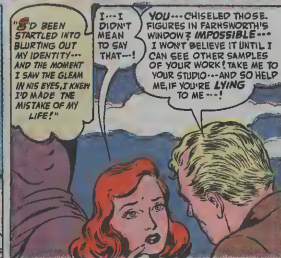
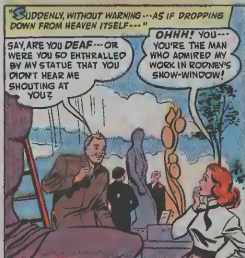
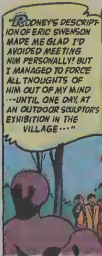
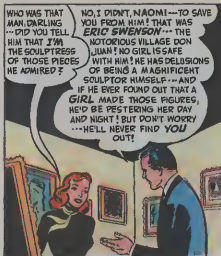
VILLAGE ART SHOP

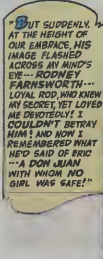
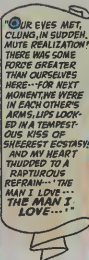
R. FARNGORTH

OH! THE ONLY SCULPTURES IN THE WINDOW ARE MINE...HE SAID THOSE THINGS ABOUT ME! I COULDN'T SEE RODNEY'S LIPS...I WONDER WHAT HE TOLD HIM!

ALL RIGHT, FARNGORTH...BUT THAT SCULPTOR IS MY KIND...I'LL FIND HIM SOME DAY!

VILLAGE ART SHOP







"IT HAD BEEN A MISTAKE, I TOLD MYSELF THROUGH THE FAST-FALLING TEARS---A TERRIBLE, TRAGIC MISTAKE! BUT THERE WAS STILL A COMFORTING HAVEN I COULD TURN TO---ROD! HIS TRUE LOVE WOULD SHELTER ME---HE WAS MY MAN!"

OH, RODNEY, RODNEY---HOLD ME CLOSER! I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D EVER DO WITHOUT YOU--- YOUR LOVE IS THE ONLY SAFE, SECURE POSSESSION I HAVE IN THE WORLD!

THINK SO, EH---MY STONY-EARED LITTLE FRIEND? I'VE BEEN A FOOL TO HAVE SUSPICIONS THAT YOU'VE BEEN SEEING SOME OTHER MAN THESE LAST FEW WEEKS---WHO'D WANT TO GO OUT WITH A DEAF GIRL? I GUESS YOU'VE JUST BEEN BUSY ON THOSE COMMISSIONS I GOT YOU--- LIKE A GOOD LITTLE SUCKER!

"IT WAS A WEEK LATER---AS I LEFT MY APARTMENT---

OH--YOU! GET AWAY FROM ME!

NOT UNTIL I'VE SAID MY PIECE! I DON'T CARE A HOOT ABOUT YOU ANY MORE, BUT I STILL THINK YOU'RE A GOOD SCULPTRESS!

WELL, I'M GLAD YOU DON'T CARE A HOOT ABOUT ME--- BUT WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE ME ALONE? I TOLD YOU I NEVER WANTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN---AND I MEANT IT! GOOD-BYE!

BUT LISTEN TO ME--- WHEN I WENT AROUND MAKING INQUIRIES AND TRYING TO BUY UP SOME OF THOSE BUSTS FARNSWORTH HAD GOTTEN YOU COMMISSIONS FOR, I FOUND OUT HE'S GETTING \$500 APIECE FOR THEM! AND YOU SAID HE PAYS YOU ONLY \$25---HE'S PLAYING YOU FOR A FOOL!

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME--- DOESN'T HIS ROBBING YOU MEAN ANYTHING---Z HEY--- LOOK OUT FOR THAT TRUCK!

HONK! HONK!

GREAT SCOTT---SHE ACTS AS IF SHE DOESN'T HEAR THE TRUCK'S HORN OR AN SHOUTS---

HONK! HONK!

OH--!

YOU CRAZY FOOL! WERE YOU TRYING TO COMMIT SUICIDE--- OR ARE YOU JUST DEAF? DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME YELLING?

N-NO---BECAUSE I AM DEAF! I---I SHOULD HAVE ADMITTED IT TO YOU BEFORE ---BECAUSE I KNOW YOU WOULDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH A DEAF GIRL! AND MAYBE NOW YOU'LL LEAVE ME ALONE AND STAY OUT OF MY LIFE!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... BUT SHE WOULDN'T LIE ABOUT A THING LIKE THAT! IT ALL BEGINS TO ADD UP NOW! SHE DIDN'T HEAR THE HORN OR MY SHOUTS, SHE DIDN'T HEAR ME WHEN I YELLED DOWN AT HER AT OUR FIRST MEETING! AND SHE DIDN'T HAVE ANY REACTION WHEN I TOLD HER ABOUT FARNSWORTH BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T READ MY LIPS, AND... GREAT GUNS! SHE DIDN'T HEAR ME PROPOSE TO HER!



"THAT NIGHT..."

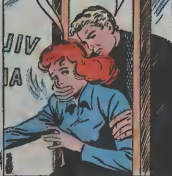
I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY RODNEY SENT ME THAT NOTE TO MEET HIM AT THE STORE TONIGHT... OR WHY HE ISN'T HERE YET! LUCKY I STILL HAVE THE KEY HE GAVE ME WHEN I USED TO DO MY WORK HERE...



"SUDDENLY..."

OHH...  
MMMPF...

SORRY TO HAVE TO DO THIS, HONEY... BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY!



"WILD TERROR GRIPPED MY HEART AS I FELT A GAG THRUST IN MY MOUTH, STRONG HANDS TRUSSING ME LIKE A CAPTIVE READY FOR THE STAKE! HAD ERIC GONE MAD BECAUSE I'D THWARTED HIS WILL?"

NOW LISTEN TO ME... I MEAN, LOOK AT MY LIPS! YOU'RE GOING TO LIE HERE IN THE SHADOWS UNTIL I PROVE SOMETHING TO YOU! YOU'RE JUST IN THE RIGHT POSITION TO WATCH THAT MIRROR HANGING ON THE WALL... AND WATCH IT AS IF YOUR LIFE... OR YOUR LOVE... DEPENDED ON IT!



"MOMENTS LATER..."

YOU! HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE... OR WAS IT YOU WHO SENT ME THAT NOTE ASKING ME TO COME HERE?

COME ON OVER HERE UNDER THE LIGHT WHERE I CAN SEE YOU BETTER... AND THEN YOU'D BETTER START ANSWERING SOME QUESTIONS... ABOUT THE WAY YOU'RE CHEATING NAOMI BRADFELD!



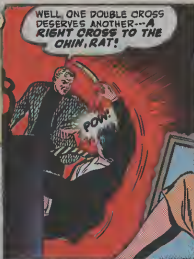
SO YOU FOUND OUT, EH? OKAY... SO WHAT? SO I PLAYED UP TO HER WITH A PHONEY LINE OF LOVE TALK... SO THAT I COULD MAKE A FORTUNE BY PAYING HER CHICKEN FEED FOR THE SCULPTURES THAT BROUGHT ME THOUSANDS! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

OHHH!... I CAN READ HIS LIPS IN THE MIRROR... BUT HE... HE CAN'T BE SAYING THINGS LIKE THAT... HE CAN'T!



"BUT I COULDN'T DENY THE EVIDENCE OF MY OWN EYES---I WAS FAR TOO EXCITED A LIP-READER TO HAVE ERRED! AND I KNEW BITTERLY THAT I HAD BEEN **BETRAYED**... THAT I HAD PLACED MY LOVING TRUST IN A **TRAITOR**! TENSELY I WATCHED AS---

WELL ONE DOUBLE CROSS DESERVES ANOTHER---A **RIGHT CROSS TO THE CHIN, RAT!**



\*ERIC UNBOUND ME THEN---AND IN WILD FURY---

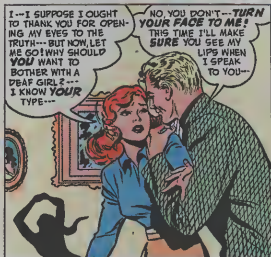
OWWWW!

CRASH!



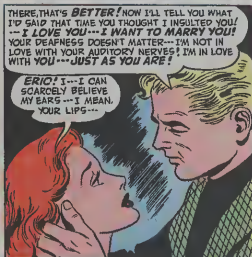
I---I SUPPOSE I OUGHT TO THANK YOU FOR OPENING MY EYES TO THE TRUTH---BUT NOW, LET ME GO! WHY SHOULD YOU WANT TO BOTHER WITH A DEAF GIRL?---I KNOW YOUR TYPE---

NO, YOU DON'T---**TURN YOUR FACE TO ME!** THIS TIME I'LL MAKE SURE YOU SEE MY LIPS WHEN I SPEAK TO YOU---



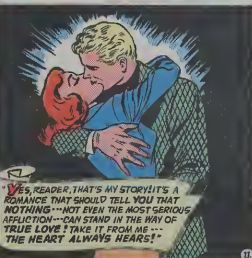
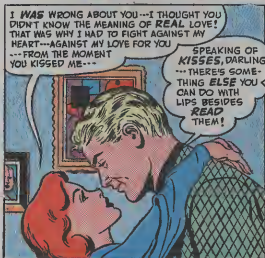
THERE, THAT'S **BETTER!** NOW I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'D SAID THAT TIME YOU THOUGHT I INSULTED YOU! ---I LOVE YOU---I WANT TO MARRY YOU! YOUR DEAFNESS DOESN'T MATTER---I'M NOT IN LOVE WITH YOUR AUDITORY NERVES! I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU---**JUST AS YOU ARE!**

ERIC! I---I CAN SCARCELY BELIEVE MY EARS---I MEAN, YOUR LIPS---



I **WAS** WRONG ABOUT YOU---I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T KNOW THE MEANING OF **REAL LOVE!** THAT WAS WHY I HAD TO FIGHT AGAINST MY HEART---AGAINST MY LOVE FOR YOU ---FROM THE MOMENT YOU KISSED ME---

SPEAKING OF **KISSES, DARLING** ---THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU CAN DO WITH LIPS BESIDES **READ THEM!**



\*YES, READER, THAT'S MY STORY! IT'S A ROMANCE THAT SHOULD TELL YOU THAT NOTHING---NOT EVEN THE MOST SERIOUS AFFLICTION---CAN STAND IN THE WAY OF TRUE LOVE! TAKE IT FROM ME---**THE HEART ALWAYS HEARS!**

# I'm from MISSOURI!!

THERE was something about the girl that made Maury Peters, head buyer for the Ace Department store, sit up and take notice. He had felt drawn to her the moment she entered his office. And at the same time, he resented her, disliked her for the very things that attracted him!

Contradictory? Not really. Maury half-listened to Miss Matthews, who had come from Peabody and Kearns, that great cleaning specialties firm, as its sales manager. Miss Matthews was as beautiful as a woman should be. Too beautiful, really, with her well-groomed hair that was like a shining cap, her perfectly lacquered nails, her make-up, so carefully and wisely applied.

"These household cleansers, Mr. Peters, are really worth your interest," she was saying, her speech as carefully arranged as her clothes. "They are thoroughly efficient, and do a superior job in less time than most cleansers take."

She smiled briefly. That was it! Maury Peters had wanted to see her smile. Would it be warm? Would it be personal? Or would it be merely another accessory, highly polished and brought into use for a definite purpose? Was this girl flesh-and-blood or an animated mannequin, beautifully polished . . . and nothing more?

Maury returned her smile. "You make some extravagant claims, Miss Matthews," he drawled. "But I'm from Missouri! I have to be shown! Show

me how good these products are!"

"I will," she said. From the neatly packed kit, Miss Matthews helped herself to her demonstration samples. For half an hour, she worked silently, bringing the wood and glass surfaces to highly polished perfection.

But Miss Matthews! The shining cap of hair was fly-away and dishevelled. On one ivory cheek, a long streak of soot appeared. Her lipstick had vanished, all but a faint trace outlining her mouth. But her eyes were sparkling and her smile warm as she pointed about her and said triumphantly, "There! You see?"

"I'm convinced, Miss Matthews," Maury said, looking straight at the once-impeccable girl. "And I do see! Believe me, I see that I've found what I've been looking for!"

Miss Matthews blushed.

"Here," said Maury, taking her arm, "why don't you wash up a bit and comb your hair? We can talk this whole thing over at dinner. And by the way, don't bother to put your lipstick on just yet. It might hamper me while I practice a little salestalk on you!"

Miss Matthews blushed again.

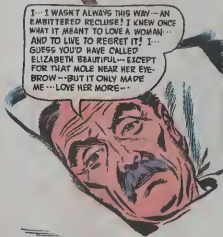
"She is real," Maury exulted inwardly. Aloud he said, "I only hope I can be as convincing as you. I'm sure going to try!"

"I may be hard to convince," Miss Matthews said softly. "You see, I'm from Missouri, too!"

"I'll take the risk!" Maury said.



# She'll **BREAK** your **HEART**



IT WAS 1910, THE YEAR I FELL IN LOVE WITH HER---AND I HAD A RIVAL FOR HER AFFECTIONS, FRANK TEMPLE. HER PARENTS DIDN'T WANT HER TO MARRY EITHER OF US, BUT SHE COULDN'T SEEM TO MAKE UP HER MIND BETWEEN US ANY WAY! UNTIL FINALLY--- SHE DIED!

GOSH ELIZABETH YOU KNOW HOW CRAZY I AM ABOUT YOU! BUT YOU KEEP PUTTING ME OFF ALL THE TIME!

I'VE HAD TO, HENRY, UNTIL I COULD CHOOSE THE MAN I REALLY CARE FOR! I--- I THINK I'VE MADE MY CHOICE---AND IT'S YOU!



**"STILL REMEMBER HOW IT WAS...THE FIERCE THUDDING OF MY HEART...THE GINGING IN MY BLOOD..."**

MY DARLING...  
MY DARLING...



**"BUT I KNEW HER PARENTS WOULD NEVER PERMIT OUR MARRIAGE...THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE AN ELOPEMENT!"**

BETTER TELL FRANK TEMPLE  
HE'S OUT OF THE RUNNING!  
AND I'LL MEET YOU AT THE  
MINISTER'S HOUSE AT  
NOON TOMORROW.  
HONEY!

GEE, AND I'D ALWAYS  
WANTED A **REAL** WEDDING!  
BUT ANYWAY, I CAN WEAR  
MOTHER'S WEDDING-  
GOWN...IT'S OLD-  
FASHIONED, BUT  
BEAUTIFUL!



**"I WAITED AT THE MINISTER'S NEXT DAY...WAITED THROUGH THE DRAGGING HOURS..."**

PERHAPS SHE'S BEEN  
UNAVOIDABLY DETAINED!  
CHEER UP...I'M SURE  
SHE'LL...

NO...SHE'LL  
**NEVER** COME!  
I...I'VE LET HER  
MAKE A **FOOL**  
OUT OF ME!



I...I NEVER SAW HER AGAIN! I LEARNED LATER THAT  
FRANK TEMPLE HAD LEFT TOWN AT ABOUT THAT TIME  
...WITH HER, NO DOUBT! SHE MUST HAVE CHANGED  
HER MIND, JILTED ME...AND BROKE MY HEART!  
PROMISE...YOU'LL PROFIT BY MY EXPERIENCE,  
MILES...AND NEVER GIVE **YOUR** HEART TO  
A WOMAN!

I...I **SWEAR**  
IT, UNCLE  
HENRY!



**"TIME PASSED  
...AND I, MILES  
TRENT, BECAME  
A SUCCESSFUL  
DOCTOR! MINE  
WAS A BUSY  
LIFE...IN WHICH  
NO WOMAN  
COULD PLAY A  
PART!"**

SAY, IS HE  
SOMETHING!  
HE'S TOO  
GOOD TO  
BE TRUE...  
BET HE'S  
**MARRIED**.  
HUH?

ANYONE COULD TELL  
YOU'RE FROM OUT OF  
TOWN! IT'S NO USE  
...THAT'S DR. MILES  
TRENT, AND HE'S A  
**WOMAN-  
HATER!**



**"YES I HATED WOMEN...TRUE TO MY YOW! LONELY A LITTLE  
...BUT I HAD MY WORK...AND SPORTS TOOK UP MY LIMITED  
LEISURE!"**

NICE GAME, DR.  
TRENT! HOW'S  
ABOUT ME  
ENTERING  
YOUR NAME  
IN THE CLUB  
TOURNAMENT?

SURE,  
CASEY...  
WHY  
NOT?



"WHEN I MET MY FIRST TOURNAMENT OPPONENT, I GOT AN UNPLEASANT SURPRISE!"

DOC MEET PEGGY HEATHER... SHE JUST JOINED THE CLUB! MISS HEATHER... DR. TRENT!

I HADN'T... ER... REALIZED THAT THERE'D BE ANY FEMALE ENTRIES!

MAYBE YOU'LL BE EVEN MORE SURPRISED AFTER YOU PLAY ME, DOCTOR!

"I DETERMINED TO DISPOSE OF HER IN SHORT ORDER, BUT..."

SHE... SHE PLAYS LIKE A DEMON! I'M BEING BEATEN ALL HOLLOW!

YOU'RE A WHIZ AT TENNIS ALL RIGHT, MISS HEATHER! BUT GOLF'S REALLY MY GAME-- NO WOMAN COULD EVER BEAT ME AT THAT!

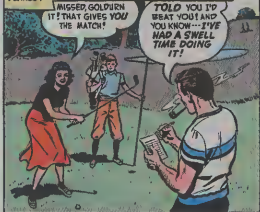
I REGARD THAT AS A CHALLENGE, DR. TRENT! SHALL WE MAKE IT THE CLUB COURSE... TOMORROW?

"I COULDN'T BACK OUT... BUT STRANGELY ENOUGH, I FOUND THAT PEGGY HEATHER'S COMPANY WASN'T AS BAD AS I'D FEARED."

MISSED, GOLDURN IT! THAT GIVES YOU THE MATCH!

TOLD YOU I'D BEAT YOU! AND YOU KNOW... I'VE HAD A SWELL TIME DOING IT!

"THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT HER... A FRESH CHARM, A GAY ZEST FOR LIFE... WHICH MADE IT EASY TO SEE HER AGAIN! SOON MY LIFE HAD FALLEN INTO A NEW PATTERN... A HAPPIER PATTERN!"



"I DIDN'T REALIZE MY DANGER, NOR HOW DEEPLY I WAS BECOMING EMBROILED... TILL THAT STARLIT NIGHT..."

GOLLY, PEGGY... WHAT A NIGHT! IT... IT MAKES YOU FEEL THAT NOBODY SHOULD BE ALONE... NOT WHERE THERE'S SUCH BEAUTY...

IT'S A NIGHT FOR TWO HEARTS... FOR LOVERS!

THE WAY YOU SAY THAT... YOU'RE MAKING ME REALIZE...

THAT YOU... LOVE ME? THEN WHY DON'T YOU... DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?





"THERE WERE NO MEMORIES OF THE PAST LEFT NOW! THERE WAS ONLY THE SPRING-SCENTED NIGHT, MY THUDDING HEART... AND PEGGY!"

SWEETHEART...

"THEN, SUDDENLY, RAPTURE WAS DISPELLED... BY A DARK VISION FROM THE GRAVE!"

YOU PROMISED, MILES! REMEMBER... SHE'LL BREAK YOUR HEART!

NO! GET AWAY FROM ME, YOU... YOU JEZEBEL!

OH-HHH!



LUCKY I KNOW YOUR TYPE... YOU ALMOST TOOK ME IN! SLY ABOUT IT, WEREN'T YOU... PROBABLY GOT A LEAD TO MY BANK BALANCE BEFORE YOU OPENED YOUR CLEVER LITTLE CAMPAIGN!

YOU--YOU... THANK HEAVENS I LEARNED WHAT YOU REALLY ARE IN TIME! I'M ASHAMED FOR FEELING THE WAY I DID--AND I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

"NO SO I WAS FREE OF HER-- BUT I FOUND NO HAPPINESS IN MY FREEDOM! THE MONTHS PASSED-- LONELY-- MISERABLE-- HAUNTED BY HER VISION!"

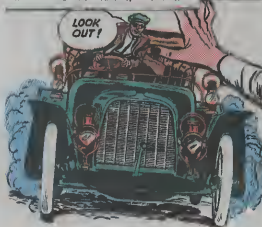
SHE'S JUST LIKE ALL THE REST OF THEM-- LIKE THE WOMAN WHO RUINED UNCLE HENRY'S LIFE-- FALSE, TREACHEROUS! BUT I-- I CAN'T GET HER FACE OUT OF MY MIND!

MR. OSGOOD'S HERE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DOCTOR!

YOU'VE BEEN MY PATIENT FOR TEN YEARS, MR. OSGOOD, AND THE VERDICT'S THE SAME AS EVER! PHYSICALLY SOUND-- BUT A MENTAL WRECK! THERE'S BEEN SOMETHING PREYING ON YOUR MIND FOR YEARS-- AND I CAN'T HELP YOU UNLESS I KNOW WHAT IT IS!

YOU--YOU'RE RIGHT, GOD HELP ME! I'VE KEPT IT TO MYSELF WHILE IT'S GNAWED AWAY AT ME FOR 40 YEARS, BUT NOW I'VE GOT TO TELL SOMEBODY! IT-- IT HAPPENED IN 1910-- RIGHT HERE IN THIS CITY--

"I'D BEEN DRINKING, CELEBRATING MY PURCHASE OF ONE OF THE FIRST CARS IN THESE PARTS-- BUT I SHOULD HAVE NEVER TRIED DRIVING IT! THE FIRST THING I KNEW--"

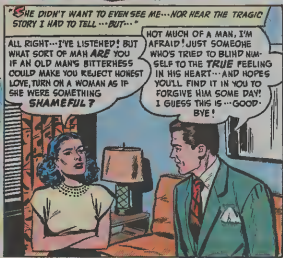
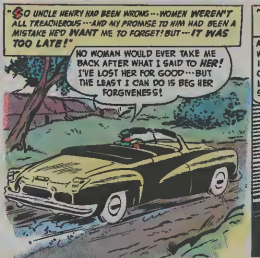
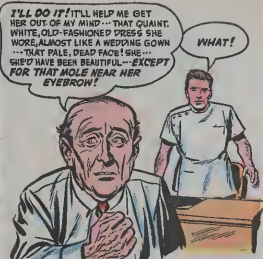
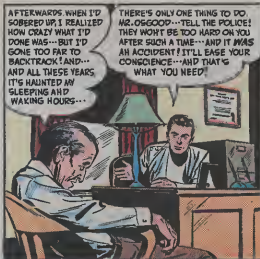


LOOK OUT!



SHE'S-- DEAD! I'M-- A MURDERER-- BUT NOBODY SAW IT! THEY'LL NEVER KNOW-- IF I BURY HER BODY...





# GREEN EYES

**JEALOUSY!** Karen could feel it, like an insidious poison, coursing evilly through her. She tried to overcome it by remembering last night, when Val had held her in his arms, kissed her, told her of his love and his plans for the future. Some of the glow returned as Karen recalled the ecstasy of his nearness, her feeling that the rest of the world was blotted out and only their love was alive.

But the little clock on her vanity table pointed to five o'clock, and the reality of the moment was stronger than the recollections of last night.

"He said he couldn't see me to-night!" Karen murmured, eying herself coldly in her mirror, as though she were cross-examining herself. "He said it was business! *Business!* Maybe it is . . . and then again . . .

There it was, that persistent, nagging jealousy that raged within her, tormenting her, not letting her rest. Val had said that jealousy could spoil real love, could tarnish it so that it was ugly and undesirable.

"Why did he say that . . . to me?" Karen wondered. "Was he trying to warn me away, throw me off the track? Why should he have to conduct his business so late, when he could be seeing me?"

Suddenly, she sprang up and tossed a coat over her shoulders. "I don't believe him!" she said. "He's not telling the truth! I want to see for myself!"

Karen took a cab to the big office building where Val worked. From a nearby doorway, she watched the throngs of office workers pouring out of the great doors, homeward-bound. And then her heart leaped as she saw

him, Val, walk briskly out of the building and down the street.

Karen had no feeling of shame as she trailed Val, seeing him enter one of the swankiest restaurants in town. Business! Through the window, she could see the head waiter howling, guiding him through a side door into what was obviously a private dining room.

A storm of rage shook Karen. Ignoring the startled waiters, she raged past, throwing open the door that Val had just entered. "Val!" she cried.

Four startled faces turned toward her. There, around a small table, were three middle-aged businessmen, anxious to check through the papers that lay before them. Val's face, paper-white and asbamed, gave Karen her answer.

Sobbing, she fled, pursued by a feeling of horrified self-hatred. "I've lost him, I've lost him!" Karen cried, when she reached the privacy of her own room. "That's what he was trying to tell me when he said that jealousy could kill love! How stupid I've been! Where there's love, there must be trust!"

Somewhere far away, a phone shrilled. Karen's tear-laden voice answered it wearily. "Hello."

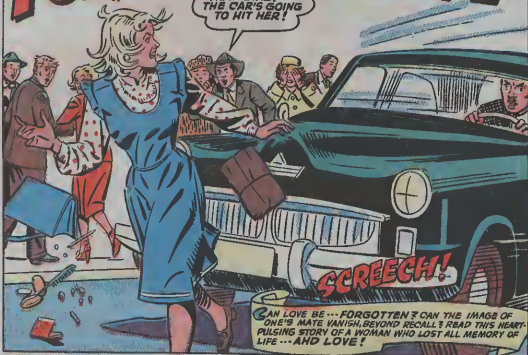
"It's Val. Our meeting's almost over, Karen, and I'm coming over. Is it all right . . . now?"

"It's all right *forever!*" Karen's laugh was light with relief. She felt that she had escaped some violent disaster. "And, darling, hurry! I want to tell you something very important!"

How wonderful it would be . . . to return his love, unmarred and unblemished by jealousy!

# FORGOTTEN LOVE

THAT GIRL!  
THE CAR'S GOING  
TO HIT HER!



CAN LOVE BE...FORGOTTEN? CAN THE IMAGE OF ONE'S MATE VANISH, BEYOND RECALL? READ THIS HEART-PULSING STORY OF A WOMAN WHO LOST ALL MEMORY OF LIFE...AND LOVE!

SHE'S STILL ALIVE...  
BUT UNCONSCIOUS!  
WE'D BETTER GET  
HER TO THE HOSPITAL  
... QUICK!



A SERIOUS BRAIN CON-  
CUSSION AND POSSIBLE  
FRACTURE! SHE MAY  
PULL THROUGH, BUT THERE'S  
NO WAY OF TELLING WHAT  
HER MENTAL CONDITION  
WILL BE!



FORTY-EIGHT HOURS IN A COMA...LINGERING IN THE  
SHADOW OF DEATH...AND THEN...THE GIRL OPENED  
HER EYES...

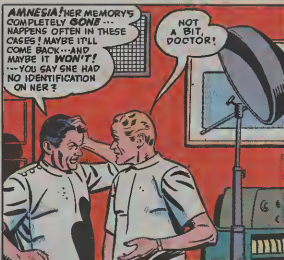




**A** LOOK OF UTTER BLANKNESS... OF AWFUL, MOUNTAINING FEAR!

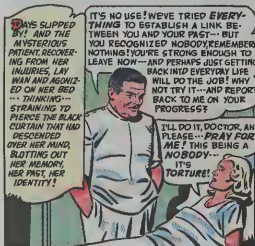
WHO... AM I? MY NAME? I... I DON'T KNOW! I CAN'T REMEMBER!

NEVER MIND, LITTLE LADY... YOU'RE UPSET! YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT AFTER YOU GET SOME REST—WAIT AND SEE!



**AMNESIA!** HER MEMORY'S COMPLETELY GONE... HAPPENS OFTEN IN THESE CASES! MAYBE IT'LL COME BACK... AND MAYBE IT WON'T! ...YOU SAY SHE HAD NO IDENTIFICATION ON HER?

NOT A BIT, DOCTOR!



**2** DAYS SLIPPED BY! AND THE MYSTERIOUS PATIENT, RECOVERING FROM HER INJURIES, LAY IN AN AND AGONIZED ON HER BED... THINKING... STRAINING TO PIERCE THE BLACK CURTAIN THAT HAD DESCENDED OVER HER MIND, BLOTTING OUT HER MEMORY, HER PAST, HER IDENTITY!

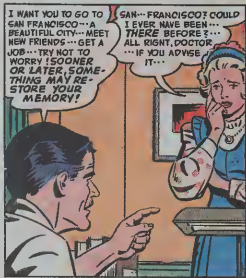
IT'S NO USE! WE'VE TRIED EVERYTHING TO ESTABLISH A LINK BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR PAST... BUT YOU RECOGNIZED NOBODY, REMEMBERED NOTHING! YOU'RE STRONG ENOUGH TO LEAVE NOW—AND PERHAPS JUST GETTING BACK INTO EVERYDAY LIFE WILL DO THE JOB! WHY NOT TRY IT... AND REPORT BACK TO ME ON YOUR PROGRESS?

I'LL DO IT, DOCTOR, AND PLEASE... PRAY FOR ME! THIS BEING A NOBODY... IT'S TORTURE!

"AND SO, A GIRL WITHOUT IDENTITY. I WALKED THE STREETS ENDLESSLY, FEVERISHLY... TRYING TO RECOGNIZE A NOSE, A FACE, ANYTHING THAT WOULD BRING MY MEMORY BACK!"

IT'S NO USE, DOCTOR! I'VE WALKED THE SIDEWALKS UNTIL I'M FRANTIC! MANY THINGS LOOK VAGUELY FAMILIAR... AS IF I SAW THEM LONG AGO IN A DREAM... AND YET... YET I CAN'T PLACE THEM!

I EXPECTED THAT MIGHT HAPPEN!... YOU SEE, YOU'VE BEEN EXPOSED TO MANY THINGS OUT OF YOUR PAST, BUT YOU HAVEN'T RESPONDED... BECAUSE YOUR MIND IS STILL NUMBED BY SHOCK! YOU'LL HAVE TO REALIZE THAT YOU ARE NOW A DIFFERENT PERSON... THAT THE OLD ONE MAY NEVER COME BACK! SO WHY NOT START LIFE ANEW? GO SOMEWHERE WHERE YOU WON'T BE HAUNTED BY SHADOWS OF PLACES AND PEOPLE YOU CAN'T REMEMBER!



I WANT YOU TO GO TO SAN FRANCISCO... A BEAUTIFUL CITY... MEET NEW FRIENDS... GET A JOB... TRY NOT TO WORRY! SOONER OR LATER, SOMETHING MAY RESTORE YOUR MEMORY!

SAN... FRANCISCO? COULD I EVER HAVE BEEN THERE BEFORE?... ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR... IF YOU ADVISE IT...



BUT... BUT... WHAT WILL I CALL MYSELF?

CALL YOURSELF... GRACE! BECAUSE IT WAS ONLY BY THE GRACE OF GOD THAT YOU WEREN'T KILLED IN THAT ACCIDENT! GRACE HALLIDAY... AND GOOD LUCK!



"AND SO FEELING LIKE A DISEMBODED GHOST...  
DEVOID OF ALL MEMORY...I BOARDED THE PLANE  
TO SAN FRANCISCO!"

WE'RE TAKING  
OFF, MISS...  
THIS YOUR  
FIRST PLANE  
TRIP?

I...I... DON'T KNOW!  
...I MEAN Y-YES...  
YES, IT IS!

WELL, WE'RE GOING TO BE  
TOGETHER ALL THE WAY TO  
THE COAST...MIGHT AS WELL  
BE FRIENDLY! MY NAME IS  
STAN BELLWS!  
WHAT'S  
YOURS?

I... I'M  
GRACE  
HALLIDAY!

TELL ME ABOUT  
YOURSELF...WHERE  
YOU CAME FROM,  
WHAT YOU DO FOR  
A LIVING!

I'M... SORRY, MR.  
BELLWS...IF YOU'LL  
EXCUSE ME, I'D LIKE  
TO READ FOR A  
WHILE!

"HE WAS  
NICE ENOUGH  
...FRIENDLY...  
WARM, TWINKLING  
EYES... BUT I  
COULDN'T STAND  
HIS QUESTIONS!  
THEY TOLD ME  
THAT I WAS AS  
MUCH A STRANGER  
TO MYSELF AS  
HE WAS TO ME!"

NEXT STOP IS  
SAN FRANCISCO!  
FASTEN YOUR  
SAFETY BELTS,  
PLEASE!

PARDON ME, MISS  
HALLIDAY... BETTER  
WAKE UP! WE'RE  
LANDING!

UH...YES  
...THANK  
YOU!

PLEASE DON'T CONSIDER ME  
FORWARD... BUT IF YOU'VE NEVER  
BEEN TO FRISCO BEFORE, I...I'D  
SURE LIKE TO SHOW YOU AROUND  
THE CITY!

ON, NO, I...  
COULDN'T!  
YOU SEE...

"STRANGE EMOTIONS WARRLED WITHIN ME! I WANTED TO SAY  
YES, FOR I WAS LONELY, FRIGHTENED! BUT DEEP WITHIN THE BURIED  
RECESSES OF MEMORY, A VOICE CRIED OUT THAT I MUST BE LOYAL TO  
...TO WHOM?"

OH, PLEASE, MISS  
HALLIDAY! WE COULD  
HAVE A SWELL TIME!

NO...YOU SEE,  
I...I...OKAY!  
WHY NOT?

"I RENTED A ROOM---GOT A JOB AS A RECEPTIONIST---AND BEGAN DATING STAN! HE WAS WONDERFUL FUN---GAY, SPARKLING---YET GENTLE AND UNDERSTANDING!"

THIS IS ONE OF FRISCO'S MOST BEAUTIFUL SIGHTS---THE TOP OF THE MARK HOPKINS HOTEL!

GEE, YOU CAN SEE WAY DOWN THE BAY! OH, STAN, IT'S BREATHTAKING!



WAITER! ANOTHER PHEASANT AND SOME MORE WINE!---GRACE, HONEY, YOU'RE EATING ME OUT OF HOUSE AND HOME!

MAYBE I AM---BUT IT'S FUN!



"AS THE DAYS AND NIGHTS GLIDED BY, STAN CAME TO MEAN MORE AND MORE TO ME, AND I BEGAN TO YEARN FOR THE MOMENTS WHEN WE WERE TOGETHER! ONLY WITH HIM DID I CEASE MY FEVERISH ATTEMPTS TO PENETRATE THE VEIL THAT HID MY MEMORY---ONLY WITH HIM DID I RELAX! UNTIL ONE EVENING---"

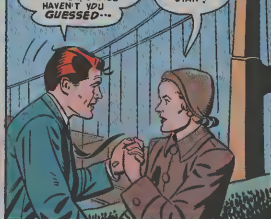
THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE! IT'S IMMENSE---AND BEAUTIFUL!

IT---IT'S NOT THE ONLY THING THAT'S BEAUTIFUL!

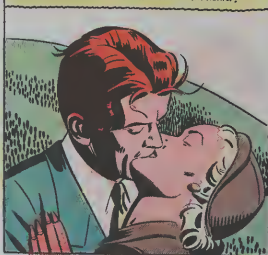


THESE WONDERFUL MOMENTS WE'VE HAD TOGETHER, GRACE---HAVEN'T YOU GUESSED---

WHAT... WHAT IS IT, STAN?

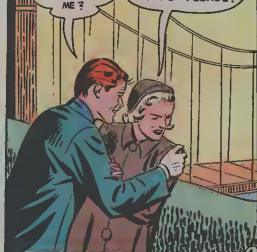


"SUDDENLY, HIS STRONG ARMS ENFOLD ME! HIS FERVENT LIPS TOUCHED MINE---AND I FELT THE WILD, SURGING THRILL OF ROMANCE!---YET---SOMETHING---SOMETHING DEEP WITHIN ME---RESISTED THE CRY OF MY HEART!"



WHAT IS IT, DARLING? WHY DO YOU DRAW AWAY FROM ME?

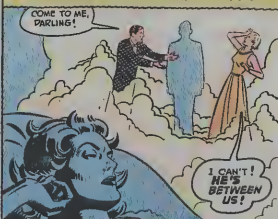
I---I WISH I KNEW, STAN! NOW I WISH I KNEW! TAKE ME HOME---PLEASE!



"A SLEEPLESS NIGHT, STORMY WITH WILD, CONFLICTING EMOTIONS! WHO DID I BELONG TO?...STAN?...OR SOMEONE ELSE, NOW LOST IN THE DARK PIT OF FORGETFULNESS?"



"FINALLY...TORTURED SLEEP...STRANGE, FITFUL VISIONS..."



"STAN WAS THE ONLY WARM AND BRIGHT REALITY IN MY LIFE...YET LOVING HIM COLLIDED WITH SOMETHING...OR SOMEONE...DEEP INSIDE MY SUBCONSCIOUS! FOR STAN'S SAKE, I KNEW I HAD TO END THE CONFLICT..."

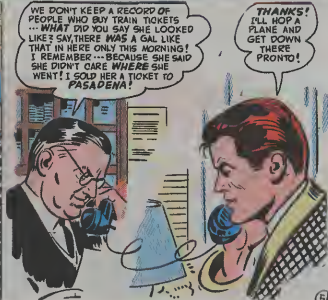
"STAN DARLING...I'M GOING AWAY! I CAN'T EXPLAIN WHY, BUT BELIEVE ME, IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD! I MUSTN'T SEE YOU AGAIN...OH, HOW I WISH IT COULD HAVE WORKED OUT DIFFERENTLY!...GRACE! WELL, THAT'S THAT! NOW TO GET A MESSENGER TO DELIVER IT!"



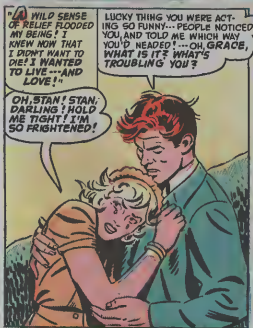
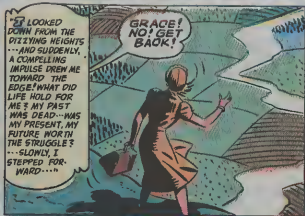
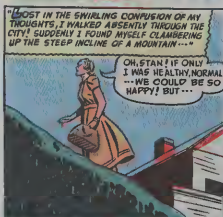
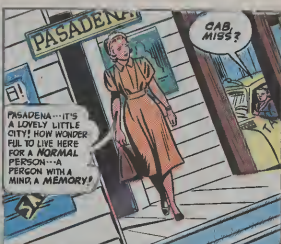
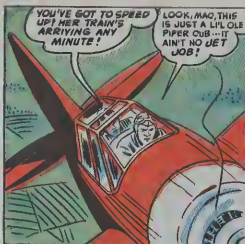
"SHE'S...GONE! I'LL OALL THE AIRLINES THE RAILROAD THE BUS STATIONS...BUT I'VE GOT TO FIND HER!"



"WE DON'T KEEP A RECORD OF PEOPLE WHO BUY TRAIN TICKETS...WHAT DID YOU SAY SHE LOOKED LIKE? SAY, THERE WAS A GAL LIKE THAT IN HERE ONLY THIS MORNING! I REMEMBER...BECAUSE SHE SAID SHE DIDN'T CARE WHERE SHE WENT! I SOLD HER A TICKET TO PASADENA!"



"THANKS! I'LL HOP A PLANE AND GET DOWN THERE PRONTO!"







SOMETHING'S THE MATTER, DARLING! I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT IF YOU'D RATHER NOT TELL ME, I DON'T MIND! I ONLY KNOW I NEED YOU---AND I THINK YOU NEED ME! I'VE GOT YOU NOW---AND I'LL NEVER LET YOU LEAVE ME AGAIN!



"AND SO WE WENT ON TOGETHER---STAN...MYSELF..."

HAPPY LITTLE LADY?

WITH YOU--YES!

"BUT ALWAYS, IT WOULD COME AGAIN---THAT MYSTERIOUS INNER VOICE---THE VOICE OF ANOTHER MAN FROM ANOTHER LIFE! BUT I FOUGHT IT DOWN! ONLY ONE PERSON MATTERED, I TOLD MYSELF! STAN! STAN!"



HONEY, I'VE GOT AN IDEA! WHY DON'T WE RENT A CAR AND DRIVE DOWN TO TIA JUANA, MEXICO---JUST FOR A LARK!

SOUNDS LIKE FUN!

"MEXICO---EXOTIC CHARM---ROMANCE! I ANTICIPATED A WONDERFUL TIME, UNTIL..."



AH, SEÑOR AND SEÑORITA! YOU COME---I TELL FORTUNE!

WHAT DO YOU SAY, GRACE? LET'S TRY HER OUT!

BUT...

"A SNAKING PRESENTIMENT CLUTCHED AT MY HEART... BUT WHY SHOULD I BE AFRAID OF AN OLD FORTUNE-TELLER?"



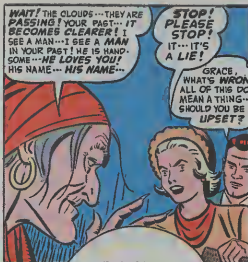
LET HER TELL YOUR FORTUNE FIRST, STAN!

UH-HH---LADIES FIRST! WHAT ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT, DARLING?

IT IS---STRANGE! I SEEK FOR YOUR PAST IN CRYSTAL BALL---AND FIND ONLY BLACK-NESS!



NO---NO---DON'T GO ON! PLEASE---LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!



WAIT! THE CLOUDS...THEY ARE PASSING! YOUR PAST... IT BECOMES CLEARER! I SEE A MAN...I SEE A MAN IN YOUR PAST! HE IS HANDSOME...HE LOVES YOU! HIS NAME... HIS NAME...

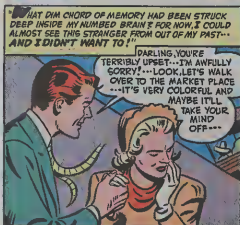
STOP! PLEASE STOP! IT...IT'S A LIE!

GRACE, WHAT'S WRONG? ALL OF THIS DOESN'T MEAN A THING...WHY SHOULD YOU BE SO UPSET?



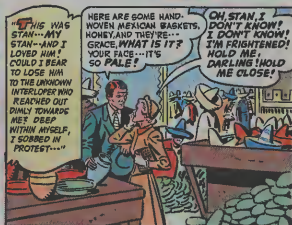
EVEN DO I SEE HIS FACE NOW. SENORITA! THIS MAN, HE IS...

I'M LEAVING, STAN! AND IF YOU DON'T COME WITH ME, I'LL GO MYSELF!



WHAT DIM CHORD OF MEMORY HAD BEEN STRUCK DEEP INSIDE MY NUMBED BRAIN? FOR NOW, I COULD ALMOST SEE THIS STRANGER FROM OUT OF MY PAST... AND I DIDN'T WANT TO!

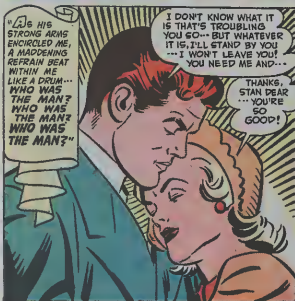
DARLING, YOU'RE TERRIBLY UPSET...I'M AWFULLY SORRY!...LOOK, LET'S WALK OVER TO THE MARKET PLACE...IT'S VERY COLORFUL AND MAYBE IT'LL TAKE YOUR MIND OFF...



"THIS WAS STAN...MY STAN...AND I LOVED HIM! COULD I BEAR TO LOSE HIM TO THE UNKNOWN INTERLOPER WHO REACHED OUT DIMLY TOWARDS ME? DEEP WITHIN MYSELF, I SOBBED IN PROTEST..."

HERE ARE SOME HAND-WOVEN MEXICAN BASKETS, HONEY, AND THEY'RE... GRACE, WHAT IS IT? YOUR FACE...IT'S SO PALE!

OH, STAN, I DON'T KNOW! I'M FRIGHTENED! HOLD ME, DARLING! HOLD ME CLOSE!



"AS HIS STRONG ARMS ENCLOSED ME, A MADDENING REFRAIN BEAT WITHIN ME LIKE A DRUM... WHO WAS THE MAN? WHO WAS THE MAN? WHO WAS THE MAN?"

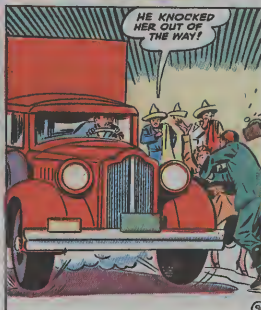
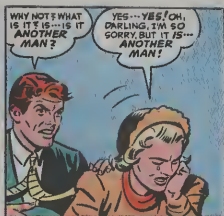
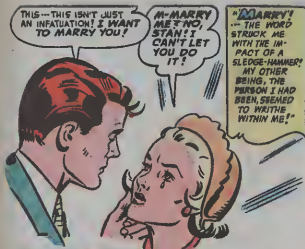
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS THAT'S TROUBLING YOU SO... BUT WHATEVER IT IS, I'LL STAND BY YOU... I WON'T LEAVE YOU! YOU NEED ME AND...

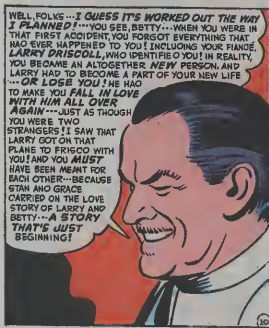
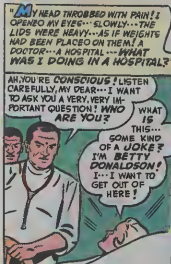
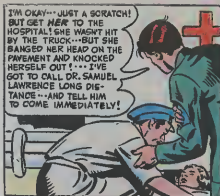
THANKS, STAN DEAR... YOU'RE SO GOOD!



GRACE! YOU'VE GOT TO UNDERSTAND THIS...I'M NOT BEING GOOD OR NOBLE! DARLING, DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? I LOVE YOU!

I...I...







you're the *SQUARE DANCE* darlin'

in "*SASHAY*"

the *SWIRLING SKIRT*  
ablaze with  
real bandanas!

the *FLUFFY BLOUSE*  
frilled with  
cotton eyelet!

wonderful  
TWSOME  
for the  
price of  
ONE!

only **\$6.98**

**SKIRT**  
fine-quality,  
color-fast SANFORIZED  
broadcloth. Black or  
Navy with Barn-  
Red bandanas.  
Sizes 24-26-28-30.

**BLOUSE**  
soft batiste,  
3-tier embroidered  
eyelet ruffles.  
White only.  
Sizes 32-34-36-38.

You'll honor your partner—and your own pretty self—in sassy little SASHAY! Real red bandanas promenade 'cross the flirty skirt to match the bandana he wears! He'll love the dainty blouse with its dancing, romancing eyelet ruffles. You'll wear it with every skirt you own—on shoulders or off, it's seductive either way! Order SASHAY today and start swinging—you're sure to be the center of every square!

KEY: NO MONEY—ORDER ON 10-DAY APPROVAL

WILCO FASHIONS, DEPT. 5829G  
45 East 17th St., New York 3, N.Y.

Please send me SASHAY SQUARE DANCER at \$6.98

Blouse Size.....(White only)

Skirt Size.....Black ☐ Navy ☐

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....

STATE.....

☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postage. ☐ I enclose \$6.98. You pay postage.  
IF NOT DELIGHTED, I MAY RETURN IN 10 DAYS FOR FULL PURCHASE PRICE REFUND.



YARDS OF SWIRLING SKIRT!

# 3-WAY PIQUE CONVERTIBLE

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THREESOME  
for the  
price of ONE!

only \$6.98

the STOLE  
for gay  
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the JACKET  
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STRAPLESS  
for lazy  
sunning!



JUNIOR SIZES:  
9-11-13-15  
MISSSES' SIZES:  
12-14-16-18-20

**Wear it stropless—**  
this tempting trio that shows  
off your smooth, sun-kissed shoulders! Or be a  
coquette in the pocketed stole, a wide-eyed ongel in  
the snug, curve-hugging jacket. All ways, you've an  
alluring figure! Shirred elastic-back badice shapes  
you seductively, stays up forever! Yards of shirt swirl  
enticingly from your teeny waistline, flaunt a smart  
inverted pleot. CONVERTIBLE is your summer  
wardrobe-in-one for only \$6.98!

Crisp Sanferlized WAFFLE PIQUE in Pastel PINK,  
BLUE, AQUA, MAIZE, with contrasting GINGHAM CHECKS.

SEND NO MONEY ORDER ON 10-DAY APPROVAL

WILCO FASHIONS, DEPT. C729G  
45 East 17th St., New York 3, N. Y.

Please send me PIQUE 3-PIECE CONVERTIBLE at \$6.98

Size.....1st Color.....2nd Color Choice.....

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....STATE.....

☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postage. ☐ I enclose \$6.98. You pay postage.  
IF NOT DELIGHTED, I MAY RETURN IN 10 DAYS FOR FULL PURCHASE PRICE REFUND.

**F.C.A. Gives you more for your money. . . GREATER VALUE!**

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FINE QUALITY FABRICS  
LAUNDRER LIKE A CHARM  
GUARANTEED COLDRFAST



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PLAID SKIRT

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Colors are in the flowers:  
A—Rose Red. B—Royal Blue.  
C—Goldenrod yellow.  
SIZES: 12-14-16-18-20-40-42-44

ORDER  
SEVERAL!  
Money refunded  
if not  
satisfied!



NO. 750

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Beautiful Bolero. Styled in the manner of dresses costing 3 times as much . . . and just as gorgeous. Smart and youthful. Wear it with or without the jacket for almost any occasion. Perfect for Spring and Summer. Made of gorgeous plaid with matching pastel trim. You'll love it!

Colors: F—BLUE with matching pastel trim,  
G—HUNTER GREEN with matching pastel trim.  
H — DUBONNET with matching pastel trim.

SIZES: 12-14-16-18-20.



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## STYLE NO. 654

We've captured the colorful gaiety of peasant attire in this lovely, peasant-type print dress. Styled and made to usual high standards of F.C.A. quality. You'll love wearing it in warm weather . . . it's cool-looking and comfortable. Lunders beautifully. Comes in solid color bodice with gay, matching print.

Colors: O — HUNTER GREEN with multicolor print.  
E — BURGUNDY with multicolor print.

SIZES: 12-14-16-18-20-40-42-44

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127 Valley Rd., Montclair, N. J.

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Style No. How Many Size Color 2nd Col. Choice

☐ Send C. O. D. — I'll pay postman plus charges.  
☐ Check or M.O. enclosed. You pay delivery costs.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

**YOUR GUARANTEE!** This seal is your assurance of absolute satisfaction . . . or money refunded.



# ROMANTIC ADVENTURES

9

July 1950

COVER BALD

LESSON IN LOVE

WHITNEY\*

8

HOW HE PROPOSED

SULTAN

1

THEY CALLED ME "TOMBOY"

STARR

8

LISTEN, MY LOVE

BALD

11

SHE'LL BREAK YOUR HEART

WHITNEY\*

5

FORGOTTEN LOVE

GERSHWIN

10